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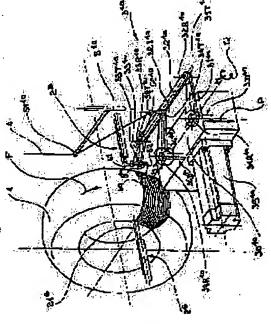
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(54) RECIPROCATING ARM DEVICE FOR MANUFACTURING TIRE REINFORCEMENT FROM SINGLE CORD

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a method for manufacturing a reinforcement by molding on a cylindrical mold which is the same as or similar to the internal cavity for molding a tire, with such advantages that a wide range of tire sizes can be dealt with by making only a simple adjustment of the device and a production speed is high.

SOLUTION: In this molding method by which constituent cords 4 of a carcass reinforcement are mutually arranged archwise on a rigid core mold 1 by a, sequence of reciprocating motions of a guide member 6, the transfer means of the guide member 6 has at least a single base arm 31 having a rotational center 31R and a transfer head 31T and a control means which



reciprocates the base arm 31 around the rotational center and it is arranged so that the geometric axis of the rotational center is completely outside the mold 1 at a working position.

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CLAIMS

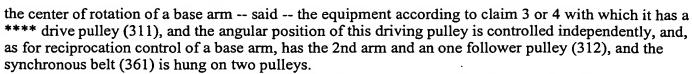
[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] According to the locus of a request of the code (4) supplied through a feeder on an almost annular mold, arrange in the shape of an arch, and make tire reinforcing materials one by one. The interior material of a proposal which manufactures the tire reinforcing materials who collaborate with an almost annular mold and are used and which is equipment and Following a - the c:a code can slide freely (6), b) The migration means which is made to move said interior material of a proposal by periodic order movement, and carries the interior material of a proposal near each request edge in the locus of the above of a code one by one periodically, c) In the equipment which has press equipment (2) which forces a code (4) on the front face of a mold near [edge] each [of a locus] Equipment characterized by the following i and ii : At least one base arm on which i migration means has the center of rotation (31R) and a migration head (31T) (31), Having the control means which carries out reciprocation movement of this base arm by the periphery of that center of rotation, the migration head (31T) of a base arm carries the interior material of a proposal directly from the end section of the above-mentioned locus to the other end, or indirectly, and the geometrical axis of ii center of rotation is outside completely [a mold] in an active position.

[Claim 2] Equipment according to claim 1 with which the migration head (31T) of a base arm (31) supports the interior material of a proposal (6) directly.

[Claim 3] The center of rotation of the 2nd arm is attached in the migration head (31T) of a base arm. It has the 2nd arm (32) by which joint connection was made in the center of rotation (32R) of the 2nd arm which has the migration head (31T) to which the 2nd arm (32) carries the interior material of a proposal directly from the end section of a locus to the other end, or indirectly. Equipment according to claim 1 which has the control means which controls the relative position of the 2nd arm to a base arm (31). [Claim 4] It is the manufacturing installation which collaborates with an almost annular mold, arranges in in the shape of an arch the code supplied through a feeder according to the request locus of a code on the front face of a mold, and carries out sequential creation of the tire reinforcing materials. Following: The interior material of a proposal which the a code can slide freely, and the migration means which is made to move the interior material of the b aforementioned proposal by periodic order movement, and carries the interior material of a proposal near each request edge in the locus of the above of a code one by one periodically, c) In the equipment which has press equipment (2) which forces a code (4) on the front face of a mold near [edge] each [of a locus] A migration means has at least two arms, a reciprocation base arm and other at least one reciprocation arm. These at least two arms have the center of rotation and a migration head, respectively. Geometric axis of rotation of two arms is mutually parallel, and it has further the control means which tells reciprocation movement centering on each geometric axis of rotation to each arm. The migration head of a base arm is equipment characterized by having the control means which supports the center of rotation of the 2nd reciprocation arm, carries the interior material of a proposal directly [a migration head] from the end section of a locus to the other end, or indirectly, and controls the relative position of the 2nd arm to a base arm.

[Claim 5] the control means which controls the relative position of the 2nd arm (32) to a base arm (31) --



[Claim 6] Equipment according to claim 5 with which the driving pulley (311) is being fixed in space. [Claim 7] It has the 2nd arm (32) by which joint connection was made in the center of rotation (32R) of the 2nd arm. The center of rotation of the 2nd arm is attached in the migration head (31T) of a base arm (31). It has the migration head (32T) which carries the interior material of a proposal directly [the 2nd arm] from the end section of a locus to the other end, or indirectly. It has further the auxiliary arm (34) which reciprocates the surroundings of the center of rotation (34R). The geometric axis of rotation of the center of rotation of this auxiliary arm is located outside completely [the front face of a mold] between the front face of a mold, and the geometrical axis of rotation of said base arm. An auxiliary arm has a migration head (34T), and the 2nd arm has the middle center of rotation (32I) between the center of rotation (32R) of the 2nd arm, and the migration head (32T) of the 2nd arm. This middle center of rotation is equipment according to claim 1 by which joint connection is made at the migration head (34T) of an auxiliary arm.

[Claim 8] Equipment according to claim 3, 4, or 7 with which the migration head (32T) of the 2nd arm supports the interior material of a proposal (6) directly.

[Claim 9] Equipment given in any 1 term of claims 3-7 which have the 3rd arm (33) by which joint connection was made on the migration head (32T) of the 2nd arm through the center of rotation (33R), have the migration head (33T) which carries the interior material of a proposal directly [the 3rd arm] from the end section of a locus to the other end, or indirectly, and have the control means which controls the relative position of the 3rd arm to the 2nd arm.

[Claim 10] Equipment according to claim 9 with which the migration head (33T) of the 2nd arm supports the interior material of a proposal (6) directly.

[Claim 11] It has a **** drive pulley (321). the control means which controls the relative position of the 3rd arm to the 2nd arm -- fundamental -- the center of rotation (32R) of the 2nd arm -- said -- This driving pulley is claims 9 and 5 by which it is a base arm (31) and one, the center of rotation has the 3rd arm (33) and an one follower pulley (322), and the synchronous belt (362) is hung between the driving pulley and the follower pulley, or equipment given in 10 and 5.

[Claim 12] It has a **** drive pulley (321). the control means which controls the relative position of the 3rd arm to the 2nd arm -- fundamental -- the middle center of rotation (32I) of the 2nd arm -- said -- This driving pulley is claims 9 and 7 by which it is a middle arm (34) and one, the center of rotation has the 3rd arm (33) and an one follower pulley (322), and the synchronous belt (362) is hung on the driving pulley and the follower pulley, or equipment given in 10 and 7.

[Claim 13] It is equipment according to claim 9 or 10 which has the rack with which this connection rod engaged with the gearing the cam follower which collaborates with a cam in one side in the opposite side by having the cam by which the control means which controls the relative position of the 3rd arm to the 2nd arm has been arranged fundamentally at the migration head of a base arm, the 3rd arm and an one gearing, and the connection rod by which slide guidance is carried out to the 2nd arm.

[Claim 14] Equipment given in any 1 term of claims 1-13 which have the base material of a means

Claim 14] Equipment given in any 1 term of claims 1-13 which have the base material of a means which moves the interior material of a proposal, and have a means to tell mutual movement to this base material and to bend the locus of the code (4) on a heart type (1).

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention] [0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the manufacture approach of a tire, especially the configuration method of the code which constitutes tire reinforcing materials. Especially this invention relates to a means support a tire material at the time of tire manufacture to manufacture reinforcing materials mostly on a circular ring-like mold (mold which has a configuration similar to the same configuration or the same it as the internal cavity of a tire).

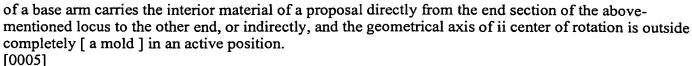
[Description of the Prior Art]

[0002] The approach and equipment which manufacture of tire reinforcing materials can build now into the assembly of the tire itself are already known for the technical field of this invention. That is, using half-finished products, such as reinforcement ply, at the time of tire manufacture, I hear that an unit or two or more reinforcing materials are manufactured on that spot, and it is [rather than] from a cord reel. The solution approach of a Europe patent [No. 0,580,055] publication conforms to the external surface manufacturing the carcass reinforcing materials who correspond substantially in the mold of the internal cavity of a completion tire among these approaches and equipment at a hard heart draw spike most. In this patent specification, it is attached in the shape of [the code for constituting carcass reinforcing materials adjoins a hard heart draw spike through guidance tubing fixed on the chain installed in the pulley] an arch, and the equipment which forms a kind of fork member and encloses a heart type is indicated. Guidance tubing exercises the heart type surroundings approximately, attaches one arch at a time by turns one by one respectively in the outward trip and return trip, forces the edge of said arch using suitable press equipment, and forms an arch in the hard heart draw spike by which preliminary covering was carried out with non-hardened rubber.

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] The purpose of this invention is the same approach substantially, and is to offer the modification of the facility which arranges a reinforcement code to a heart draw spike.

[0004]

[Means for Solving the Problem] This invention is the manufacturing installation of the tire reinforcing materials who arrange the shape of an arch in on an almost annular mold for the code supplied if needed from a suitable feeder according to the request locus of a code, and do sequential creation of the tire reinforcing materials. The interior material of a proposal which Following a - the c:a code can slide freely, and the migration means which is made to move the interior material of the b aforementioned proposal by periodic order movement, and carries the interior material of a proposal near each request edge in the locus of the above of a code one by one periodically, c) In the equipment which has press equipment which forces a code on the front face of a mold near [edge] each [of a locus] the following --: which offers the equipment characterized by i and ii -- i migration means with at least one base arm which has the center of rotation and a migration head It has the control means which carries out reciprocation movement of this base arm by the periphery of that center of rotation, the migration head

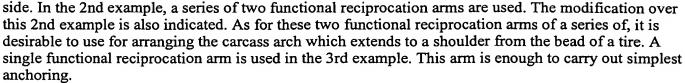


[Embodiment of the Invention] This invention equipment forms a loop formation, and since the press equipment which receives and forces this loop formation on a heart type is included, a publication can be referred to to the Europe patent application No. 0,580,055. Please remember that this press equipment consists of a fork member and a hammer fundamentally. The example of the press equipment of a Europe patent application [No. 0,580,055] publication can be used also for the new press equipment which sets aside 2 or 3 detailed parts and explains them below as it is. The main differences in this invention are in the drive approach of a code anchoring member and the interior material of a proposal (namely, guidance tubing) which a code can slide freely correctly. That is, a reciprocation arm system or a system given in the following is used instead of a chain system given in the above-mentioned patent. [0006] Probably, it will be useful to remember some points, before explaining to a detail a new means of this invention to drive the interior material of a code proposal. He has to understand that it is not necessary to be including the cable or throwing in which the vocabulary a "code" has completely general semantics like the above-mentioned patent, and collection objects, such as single yarn and two or more yarn, for example, a cable, throwing, etc., and a fraction carried out grouping first even if the ingredient is arbitrary and preliminary covering of the "code" is carry out with rubber. The vocabulary an "arch" expresses with this specification a part of code of the reinforcing materials prolonged from one point to other points. All the arches arranged at the perimeter of a tire form the so-called reinforcement object. The arch of a definition here is good at a part of carcass, some reinforcing materials for treads, or some reinforcing materials of other arbitration formats. This arch is attached, may cut a code, and may be separated [it is the middle, and], and all may be connected in reinforcing materials through the loop formation.

[0007] In this invention, a reinforcement code is put in order continuously fundamentally and it is made the form possible nearest to the form of a finished product. A code is supplied if needed through suitable feeders, such as equipment which controls a cord reel and the tension of a code which will be pulled out from a reel if available. this invention equipment which manufactures reinforcing materials from this code collaborates with the mold (a hard heart type or the reinforced hard bladder) with which a tire is manufactured on it. It is not important whether it attaches in manufacturing perfect reinforcing materials, and a code is cut between two pass of two or more continuation pass of a member or it does not carry out.

[0008] When it expresses a location or a direction with the vocabulary "the radiation direction, the direction of an axis, and a circumferencial direction", or when it expresses a radius, the heart type or the tire itself from which a tire is made upwards becomes a reference point. The geometrical axis of criteria is the revolving shaft of a mold. Similarly, as already pointed out by the above-mentioned patent, the anchoring pitch of a code can be changed during the manufacture which manufactures reinforcing materials, for example, carcass reinforcing materials, by the code anchoring member of this invention. A "anchoring pitch" is a distance expressed with the sum of the space between two codes which adjoin mutually, and the diameter of a code. In the case of carcass reinforcing materials, it is known that the space between codes changes with a measurement radius. It wants to say here that a pitch changes not in this change but in a predetermined radius. What is necessary is just to change the rotational speed of a mold with the function of the suitable regulation of arbitration, without changing the rate of the interior material of a proposal for that purpose. The tire which was attached by it in the pitch controlled so that a carcass reinforcement code changed to the predetermined radiation direction location in the case of for example, the radial carcass is obtained.

[0009] This invention can be carried out in the various examples. Three main examples are shown below. In the 1st example, a series of three functional reciprocation arms are used. The modification over this 1st example is also indicated. As for these three functional reciprocation arms of a series of, it is desirable to use for arranging the carcass arch prolonged from one bead of a tire to the bead of another



[0010] When arranging and using the functional reciprocation arm of a series of "n" individuals (n> 1), the vocabulary "the n-th arm" expresses the reciprocation arm to which the interior material of a code proposal is fixed directly, and a base arm is always the "1st reciprocation arm." Each reciprocation arm is arranged in the shape of a cascade, and, generally the migration head of a reciprocation arm "p" (it is p>n) supports the center of rotation of a reciprocation arm "p+1." It was said that a migration head carries out direct or "indirect" (minding unit or reciprocation arm [**** / everything but plurality]) support of the interior material of a code proposal because [this]. The geometric center-of-rotation shaft of the 1st reciprocation arm is [no] outside completely [a mold] in an activity location in the examples, and this medial axis never contacts a mold (contact is not carried out on that production, either).

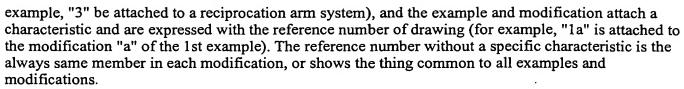
[0011] The code guide apparatus of this invention equipment draws a movement side perpendicular to the geometric revolving shaft of movement, i.e., a base arm, substantially included at a flat surface. The reciprocation arm used in a base arm or the modification in other viewpoints of this invention equipment is a long flat surface, and the flat surface where one of the flat surfaces which the movement side of base arm ** is reciprocated, or all reciprocation arms carry out a parallel displacement, or adjoin becomes very close to this movement side, or it moves is joined.

[0012] In another viewpoint of this invention, it says without taking into consideration each location to the mold of a series of reciprocation arms, and this invention offers the tire reinforcing materials manufacturing installation which has a series of arms by which joint connection was perpendicularly made to the movement side. It collaborates with an almost annular mold, the reinforcing materials who consist of the code continuously supplied if needed from a suitable feeder are used, and this equipment manufactures him. This equipment moves the interior material of a proposal which the :a code can slide freely, and the interior material of the b aforementioned proposal by periodic order movement, and has press equipment (2) which forces a code (4) on the front face of a mold the migration means which carries the interior material of a proposal near each request edge in the locus of the above of a code one by one periodically, and near [edge] each [of c locus]. As for the description of this invention, a migration means has at least two arms, a reciprocation base arm and other at least one reciprocation arm. These at least two arms have the center of rotation and a migration head, respectively. Geometric axis of rotation of two arms is mutually parallel, and it has further the control means which tells reciprocation movement centering on each geometric axis of rotation to each arm. The migration head of a base arm supports the center of rotation of the 2nd reciprocation arm, carries the interior material of a proposal directly [a migration head] from the end section of a locus to the other end, or indirectly, and is in a point equipped with the control means which controls the relative position of the 2nd arm to a base arm. He can understand all the above-mentioned viewpoints of this invention from explanation of the following which referred to the accompanying drawing. In addition, this invention is not limited to the following example.

[0013]

[Example] <u>Drawing 1</u> shows that a mold (forme) is hard heart type 1 which can be detached and attached and which specifies a tire inside configuration. However, it is not limited to this. This heart type 1 is covered with the rubber layer for holding certainly the rubber layer 10 (referring to <u>drawing 7</u>), for example, the seal rubber layer which used isobutylene isoprene rubber as the base, and a carcass code. The code 4 arranged on heart type 1 is held according to the adhesion effectiveness of this rubber layer 10 that covers heart type 1. Making it rotate with the equipment of the arbitration which is not illustrated can understand heart type 1.

[0014] An anchoring member consists of reciprocation arm system 31a, and press equipment 2G and 2D fundamentally. In addition, the same main reference number is attached to a similar member (for



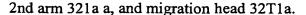
[0015] In the 1st example shown in drawing 1, reciprocation arm system 31a has three functional reciprocation arms 311a, 321a, and 331a arranged in the shape of a cascade, and auxiliary arm 341a. The interior material of a proposal of a code 4 can be easily moved to the bead of another side from one bead, and this invention equipment can be made to exercise together with press equipment 2G and 2D in each bead according to this structure of having three reciprocation arms, in this invention. Although the interior material of a code proposal is the guidance tubing (oeilleton, eyelet) 6 in all the examples, it is not limited to this. This guidance tubing 6 is attached in the last reciprocation arm 33. Before giving detailed explanation, it is said briefly that this reciprocation arm system 3 is positioned by the suitable approach so that the duty same [said Europe patent / No. 0,580,055] as the chain system of a publication may be carried out and press equipment 2G and 2D may carry out [this Europe patent / No. 0,580,055] the role of a publication.

[0016] Reciprocation arm system 31a is attached on plate 301a, and makes movement (movement which turns around the surroundings of heart type 1 in many the examples) which passes through the upper part of heart type 1 in the guidance tubing 6 draw. The reciprocation arm system 3 makes the guidance tubing 6 exercise in one field in all the illustrated examples. The guidance tubing 6 is carrying out the funnel shape, the side which a code 4 reaches has the big opening 61, and the side which a code 4 leaves has become a stoma 62 (also see drawing 3). This stoma 62 carries out movement in the abovementioned field of the interior material 6 of a proposal. Since the outlet part of this stoma 62 is mostly arranged in a movement side (inside of a field perpendicular to the guidance direction of the guidance tubing 6), it processes the edge of a stoma 62 carefully and it is made not to attach a blemish to a code 4 generally. SEYOTO [a modification / the sense near the average sense of the code at the time of leaving guidance tubing / guidance tubing].

[0017] Plate 301a is equipped with reciprocation shaft 3D1a (see <u>drawing 10</u> and <u>drawing 11</u> R> 1) which carries out motorised [of the reciprocation arm system]. The geometrical axis of this reciprocation shaft 3D1a is on the outside radiation of heart type 1. If it puts in another way, the production of the geometrical axis of reciprocation shaft 3D1a does not contact heart type 1, but is located in the outside of the front face of heart type 1. Continuous rotation of the reciprocation shaft 3D1a is not carried out, but it carries out reciprocation movement at the predetermined radii include angle of 360 degrees or less. The value with this exact radii include angle is decided by the exact configuration of the reciprocation arm system 3, and its purpose of use.

[0018] The reciprocation arm system 3 is very compact. The aggregate of the anchoring member which contains press equipment 2, a motor, and a drive in this reciprocation arm system 3 forms a subassembly. By the easy approach, this subassembly can approach a heart type, can retreat it, and to a heart type, can approach and can retreat other equipments (for example, equipment moved to the equipment for tire manufacture, and other stations of tire manufacture of a heart type).

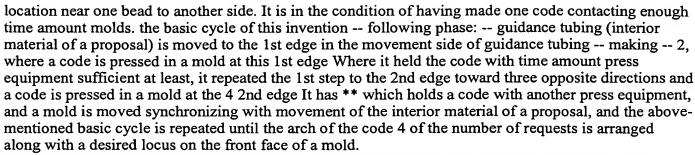
[0019] 1st arm (base arm) 311a is attached in reciprocation shaft 3D1a in the place of center-of-rotation 31R1a (drawing 1). This 1st arm 311a has migration head 31T1a at the opposite side edge of center-of-rotation 31R1a. Center-of-rotation 32R1a by which joint connection of the 2nd arm 321a was made is attached in migration head 31T1of 1st arm 311a a. This 2nd arm 321a has migration head 32T1a. In order to control the relative position of 2nd arm 321a to 1st arm 311a, in this example, auxiliary arm 341a which forms a parallelogram is used. Center-of-rotation 34R1of this auxiliary arm 341a a is attached in reciprocation shaft 34D1a, and reciprocates. From the front face of heart type 1, center-of-rotation 34R1a is the radiation direction outside, and is located on the radiation between the front face of heart type 1, and center-of-rotation 31R1of 1st arm 311a a. Auxiliary arm 341a has migration head 34T1a by which joint connection was made in 2nd arm 321a, and the 2nd arm has middle center-of-rotation 32R1of



[0020] It must be cautious of the singular point when center-of-rotation 31R1a, 34R1a and migration head 31T1a, and 34T1a exist not forming a parallelogram. For these points, the center position specified with the axis MM which connects center-of-rotation 31R1a and 34R1a, and the geometrical axis (and geometrical axis of shaft 34D1a parallel to this) of shaft 3D is a longitudinal plane of symmetry (plan median). In case it passes, it is desirable to have consistency correctly mutually. That is, the locus of movement of the guidance tubing 6 becomes the symmetry to a longitudinal plane of symmetry, and guidance tubing carries out completely symmetrical movement also near each bead field where it was specified on heart type 1. However, that it is not what is excepted (for example, when the locus of an arch manufactures the tire which is not symmetrical) can understand the case where this does not become the symmetry to a longitudinal plane of symmetry at the terminal point of movement of guidance tubing. This corresponds, when manufacturing the tire from which the diameter of the anchoring section (attaching in the general vocabulary bead) of each bead differs. [0021] This invention equipment has 3rd arm 331a, and joint connection of the center-of-rotation 33R1of this 3rd arm 331a a is made at migration head 32T1of 2nd arm 321a a. 3rd arm 331a has migration head 33T1a, and the guidance tubing 6 is directly attached in this migration head 33T1a. The control means (in order not to complicate drawing, not shown in drawing 1) of the relative position of 3rd arm 331a to 2nd arm 321a is explained below using drawing 5. saying [that the migration edge which supported the guidance tubing 6 directly by using the 3rd movable reciprocation arm to the 2nd reciprocation arm here can be made to approach a bead], if it puts in another way It is only said that movement accessed to the field hidden with the wall to the observation direction of the radiation direction involving the surroundings of the wall of heart type 1 to the center of rotation of the 1st arm is helped. Moreover, since 3rd arm 331a has turned to the predetermined direction to 2nd arm 321a, it can be understood well that the degree of freedom of the function between each arm is large. [0022] It is desirable for motor 351a to carry out motorised [of two shaft 3D1a and the 34D1a] to drawing 10 and drawing 11, as shown in a detail, and to control movement of all the arms 311a, 321a, 331a, and 341a. Motor 351a rotates a disk 70. The shaft 71 is attached in the eccentric predetermined location of this disk 70. This shaft 71 is supporting the roller 72. Carriage 73 moves in the direction of an axis on the slide 74 formed in casing of plate 301a. Carriage 73 has the straight-line-like slot 75 which turned to the right-angled direction to the movement-before and after carriage 73 on slide 74 direction. The chain (with a tender) 76 is rolled on the two same pinions 77, and has connected the both ends to carriage 73. Each pinion 77 is being fixed to shaft 3D and shaft 34D. [0023] If a motor 35 carries out the rotation drive of the control shaft 71 with constant speed, a roller 72 will carry out circular-motion 70R with constant speed. Consequently, a roller 72 moves the inside of a slot 75 up and down, and moves carriage 73 to shaft orientations. That is, rotation of constant speed is changed into the mutual rectilinear motion from which a rate changes to a sinusoidal form. This mutual rectilinear motion is changed into a chain 76 and reciprocation movement which draws the arc 360 degrees or less of shaft 3D and 34D through the two same pinions 77 mutually. The amplitude of this reciprocation movement can be adjusted by adjusting the eccentric radius of the shaft 71 (therefore, roller 72) on a disk 70. It is also possible to put the control law of arbitration peculiar to rotation of Rota of a motor 35 on this mechanical movement transformation method rule. [0024] If it returns to explanation of drawing 1, a code 4 will be supplied through reel (not shown) and feeder 51a. A code 4 attaches feeder 51a and it is correctly supplied to a member. Since a code 4 is attached at the rate (it may become a negative rate) which changes periodically and is pulled out by the member, feeder 51a controls the tension of a code 4, and when required, it has the means which attaches and carries out compensation between member 31a and a reel. A code 4 passes along 1st ring 511a. The guidance tubing 6 separates a few from the movement side which carries out periodic motion, and this 1st ring 511a is arranged right in the middle to heart type 1. Subsequently, a code 4 passes along the ring

[0025] Furthermore, a code 4 passes along the guidance tubing 6. To the bead of another side, the guidance tubing 6 reciprocates from one bead to accuracy more in the location near the bead of the

52 fixed to 2nd arm 321a.

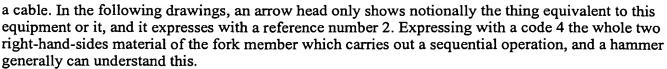


[0026] <u>Drawing 2</u> shows press equipment 2D. This press equipment 2D has fork member 21D and hammer 22D, and these move between the retreat location R (location distant from heart type 1), and the advance locations A. The broken line has shown the hammer of an advance location. <u>Since the main reference number ("21") is attached to each part material of press equipment and the specific location (drawing 1 left-hand side or right-hand side) of press equipment is expressed with the reference number of drawing, a characteristic "G" (left) or "D" (right) has been attached. [as opposed to / For example, / a fork member] <u>The reference number without a specific characteristic expresses the case where press equipment may be in ** and others or a side, and the case of being general.</u></u>

[0027] Please refer to explanation of the aforementioned Europe patent No. 0,580,055 about each function of a fork member and a hammer 22. Each duty in the advance location A and the retreat location R is indicated by this patent. He can understand that the fork member 21 and the hammer 22 have the form of an parallel blade from drawing 2. The fork member 21 is always arranged in the radiation direction to the hammer at the revolving-shaft side of heart type 1. The fork member 21 has the V character mold head 210, in order to hold a code 4 at the core. In the case of ******, the field formed by "V" is arranged at right angles to a code 4 in a code 4. When a code 4 must be arranged in the radiation direction (in the case of drawing 1), the blade which forms the fork member 21 has turned [****** / heart type 1 and / this] to the direction which carries out a tangent. The fork member 21 is dented and has 211. This duty is explained below.

[0028] It can understand the fork member 21 that it is what carries a code 4 toward heart type 1. Therefore, the forward motion of the fork member which goes to heart type 1 is started when the guidance tubing 6 leads a code 4 to one edge of the order movement (namely, when this invention equipment becomes the form of drawing 4 mostly). Movement of the fork member 21 stops, when a fork member fixes a code 4 to the rubber which has covered heart type 1. Therefore, the fork member 21 can paste up a code 4 on a request location correctly by sufficient force. If it returns to drawing 1 and the reciprocation arm system 3 continues movement, heart type 1 will rotate in a desired anchoring pitch (this is the function of rotation of heart type 1 notionally shown by the arrow head F), a loop formation will be formed in the surroundings at the tip 212 of the fork member 21, and movement which attaches the arch 40 of the new code 4 on heart type 1 will start (refer to drawing 1). The above-mentioned depression 211 enables it to let the guidance tubing 6 pass exceeding the fork member 21 all over a return phase (for the fork member 21 to be in contact with heart type 1 in this phase). That it is the function of the dimension at a tip 212 can understand the magnitude of a loop formation. [0029] A hammer 22 operates, after the fork member 21 operates behind the return phase of the guidance tubing 6. A hammer 22 presses a code 4 in the slightly high location of the radiation direction. While the fork member 21 retreats, as for a hammer 22, it is desirable to hold the code 4. That is, while a fork member retreats, it can prevent that the loop formation of the code 4 formed in the surroundings at the tip 212 of the fork member 21 is carried together with the fork member 21 by holding a code 4 with a hammer 22 (a code 4 tends to paste a fork member, even when rubber is pasted). A code 4 is certainly fixable to a bead with this (support).

[0030] It can fall ill that migration in the advance location of the fork member 21 and hammer 22 which synchronize with reciprocation arm system 31a, and return movement to a retreat location are controlled by the suitable equipment of arbitration. For example, return movement of shaft 3D is controlled using the equipment which synchronizes electrically the mechanical gear or two or more motors using a belt or



[0031] Drawing 3 shows the modification of the 1st example which has reciprocation arm system 31b, and these reciprocation arm system 31b differs as fundamentally [a means to control movement of 2nd arm 321b to 1st arm (base arm) 311b] as said reciprocation arm. Having three functional arms 311b, 321b, and 331b by which arm system 31b of this modification of the 1st example has also been arranged in the shape of a cascade, by the above-mentioned control means, it operates from one bead to the bead of another side, and these arms function together with press equipment. 1st arm (base arm) 311b is attached in reciprocation shaft 3D1b through center-of-rotation 31R1b. 1st arm 311b has migration head 31T1b at the edge of the opposite side with the above-mentioned center-of-rotation 31R1b. 2nd arm 321b by which joint connection was made is attached in center-of-rotation 32R1b of the 2nd arm at migration head 31T1of 1st arm 311b b. This 2nd arm 321b has migration head 32T1b. With this invention equipment, 3rd arm 331b by which joint connection was made is in migration head 32T1of 2nd arm 321b b through center-of-rotation 33R1b. This 3rd arm 331b has migration head 33T1b, and the guidance tubing 6 is directly attached in this migration head.

[0032] Driving pulley 3111b is center-of-rotation 31R1b of the 1st arm, and this alignment, and is united with flange 371b fixed to the aforementioned plate (not shown to drawing 3). Follower pulley 3121b is 2nd arm 321b and one (there is no relative rotation). It connects by synchronous belt 3611b between these driving pulleys and follower pulleys. The diameter of a driving pulley and a follower pulley is the same, and 2nd arm 321b is always parallel to these pulleys during the movement. In order to decide the location of each arm correctly, it can be understood to this contractor that a pulley with a gear tooth must be used. It is made the belt with a gear tooth which can exercise without carrying out a relative slide to the pulley with which a belt also corresponds. That is, connecting using the equipment of arbitration without slipping, such as a chain and a pinion, can understand each arm which should control a location. On these specifications, the vocabulary a "pulley" and a "belt" means all the systems that can slide on a relative position and can be controlled nothing.

[0033] Although flange 371b is standing it still spatially in this example, generally it is important for control of reciprocation movement of the 1st arm to control the angular position of this flange independently. For example, a degree of freedom can be given to movement between the abovementioned plate and flange 371b, the relative position of flange 371b to a plate can be controlled, the spatial position of driving pulley 3111b can be alternatively controlled by it, and the guidance tubing 6 can be made to exercise according to the mold with which dimensions differ.

[0034] A means to control the relative position to 2nd arm 321 of 3rd arm 331b b is center-of-rotation 32R1b and this alignment of 2nd arm 321b, and consists of 1st arm 311b, one driving pulley (relative rotation is impossible) 3211b, and 3rd arm 331b and one follower (relative rotation is impossible) pulley 3221b. Synchronous belt 3621b is applied among these driving pulleys and follower pulleys. The diameter of a driving pulley and a follower pulley calculates the value of each diameter so that migration edge 33T1b can approach the field near the bead of heart type 1 (refer to drawing 4), without differing mutually and 2nd arm 321b's colliding with the sidewall 11 of heart type 1 during movement.

[0035] Drawing 4 shows the condition of the guidance tubing 6 in each location 6 (a) which this invention equipment occupies in the end section of order movement of the reciprocation arms 311b, 321b, and 331b. 321b (a) and 331b (b) have shown the corresponding arrangement which the 2nd arm and the 3rd arm occupy, respectively. The difference between a location and arrangement is expressed with reference characters (b), (c), and (d).

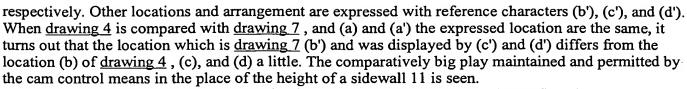
[0036] In the modification, driving pulley 3211b can be freely installed to 1st arm 311b, and it can also drive independently of both movement of the 1st arm, and movement of pulley 3111b by driving by the belt twisted around the pulley (not shown) of an and also [it is driving pulley 3211b, one one pulley, geometrical axis 3D1b, and this alignment]. The degree of freedom of control of the relative motion of the 3rd arm to the 2nd arm becomes large by this.

[0037] <u>Drawing 5</u> expresses it and the equal control means which are attached in reciprocation arm system 31a of <u>drawing 1</u>. Middle arm 341a, one 3rd (relative rotation is impossible) pulley 3211a, and 3rd arm 331a and one 4th (relative rotation is impossible) pulley 3221a are shown in this drawing by middle center-of-rotation 3211a and this alignment of 2nd arm 321a. Synchronous belt 3621a is hung on these driving pulleys and follower pulleys. The diameter of a driving pulley and a follower pulley calculates the value of a diameter so that migration edge 33T1a may arrive at the field near the bead of heart type 1 (refer to <u>drawing 4</u>), without differing mutually and 2nd arm 321a's colliding with the sidewall 11 of heart type 1 during movement of a pulley. The above-mentioned explanation about other approaches of controlling the relative motion of the 3rd arm to the 2nd arm is applicable also to this modification.

[0038] Be careful about other details shown in drawing 5. In this drawing, as arm system 31a is mostly shown by drawing 1, it is arranged. By this arrangement, 2nd arm 321a is installed in one side (one side of the longitudinal plane of symmetry specified by Axis MM and the geometrical axis of shaft 3D1a) of 1st arm 311a and middle arm 341a, and the guidance tubing 6 remains in the same side as it, while exercising the one half top of heart type 1 located in one of this longitudinal-plane-of-symmetry side. In case 2nd arm 321a moves to an another side side from one heart type side, it goes to the opposite side of a longitudinal plane of symmetry, and 1st arm 311a and middle arm 341a also go to the opposite side at the time of this passage. Middle arm 341a passes through a 1st arm 311a top during this same movement. Therefore, it is important to enable this movement for an arm in piles correctly. Therefore, spacer sleeves 3811a and 3821a are formed. This is a general thing, and when making joint connection of the reciprocation arm of each other and carrying out symmetry movement to a longitudinal plane of symmetry, each arm laps mutually and it must be able to be made to perform a desired crossover. [0039] Drawing 6 and drawing 7 show the modification of further others of the 1st example. The approaches of control movement of this modification of 3rd arm 331c differ. Arm system 31c has three functional arms 311c, 321c, and 331c arranged in the shape of a cascade also in the modification of this 1st example, and this invention equipment exercises from one bead to the bead of another side by the above-mentioned control means.

[0040] Since the relative motion of 1st arm (base arm) 311c and 2nd arm 321c which are shown in drawing 6 and drawing 7 is the same as what was explained by the arm systems 31a or 31b, explanation is omitted. 1st arm 311c has migration head 31T1c, and 2nd arm 321c by which joint connection was made at center-of-rotation 32R1c of the 2nd arm is attached in migration head 31T1of 1st arm 311c c. This 2nd arm 321c has migration head 32T1c. In this example, it has 3rd arm 331c by which joint connection was made through the center of rotation 33R13 at migration head 32T1of 2nd arm 321c c. This 3rd arm 331c has migration head 33T1c, and the guidance tubing 6 is directly attached in this migration head. Cam 3811c is machined by migration head 33T1of 1st arm 311c c. This cam 3811c has last control-section 381A1c which the radius which controls the relative motion of 3rd arm 331c by one [381N1of neutral partial c machined by the fixed average radius and] heart type side increases, and last control-section 381B1c to which the radius which controls the relative motion of 3rd arm 331c by the heart type opposite side decreases. Gearing 3221c is installed in center-of-rotation 33R1of 3rd arm 331c c. This gearing 3221c is 3rd arm 331c and one (relative rotation is impossible). Connection rod 3831c slides the inside of 2nd arm 321c and one guidance 3841c. That is, connection rod 3831c is guided so that it may slide to 2nd arm 321c. Connection rod 3831c supports cam follower 3821c which collaborates with cam 3811c in one side. Connection rod 3831c has rack 3851c which engages with gearing 3221c in the opposite side of cam follower 3821c. The profile of the cam of last control-section 381A1c and 381B1c is chosen, and it is made for the guidance tubing 6 attached in migration edge 33T1of 3rd arm 331c c without 2nd arm 321c's colliding with the sidewall of heart type 1 during movement of 3rd arm 331c to arrive at the field near the bead of heart type 1 (to refer to location 6of drawing 7 a).

[0041] <u>Drawing 7</u> shows the condition of the guidance tubing 6 in the location 6 (a') given by the cam mechanism in one edge of order movement of the reciprocation arms 311c, 321c, and 331c. 321c (a') and 331c (a') have shown the corresponding location which the 2nd arm and the 3rd arm occupy,



[0042] In cam control, since relative motion is substantially dependent on the profile of a cam, the relative motion between the 2nd arm and the 3rd arm can be chosen quite freely along with a demand. Therefore, constraint of the proportionality about relative rotation between the 1st arm and the 2nd arm peculiar to the belt control explained with reference to drawing 3 and drawing 5 is removed. It becomes possible to decide the relative position of the 3rd arm to the 2nd arm so that the guidance tubing 6 may be especially opened quickly from heart type 1. That is, sufficient fixed play is securable between migration head 33T1c and heart type 1 (refer to locations 6b and 6c and 6d), exercising sufficiently near the front face of heart type 1 in a bead field (refer to location 6a). In case partial 381D1c which turns to partial 381B1c and other directions by cam 3811c gives a mere change (rapid change of a location) of a location remarkable at short distance (curvilinear x directional movement in alignment with cam 3811c) and approaches each bead, he can understand that a cam makes 3rd arm 331c rock at each one side of the 2nd edge in the both ends of movement of the guidance tubing 6.

[0043] In the 2nd example shown in drawing 8 and drawing 9, reciprocation arm system 32a has the functional reciprocation arms 312a and 322a of the shape of two cascade. This example is designed movement from a bead to a shoulder, for example, for manufacture of a single-sided carcass. That is, the radial-ply tire which has been interrupted by somewhere in treads, without a carcass continuing from one bead to the bead of another side, and transmits the force between both-sides carcasses by belt reinforcing materials is known. The carcass reinforcing materials in this case must be stationed between a bead and a shoulder. The above-mentioned reciprocation arm system 32a uses the principle of the parallelogram used by the aforementioned reciprocation arm system 31a except for there being no 3rd arm. Plate 302a supports control-motor 352a, control-motor 352a drives shaft 3D2a and 34D2a, and axis of rotation of these shafts is contained in longitudinal-plane-of-symmetry M2 a-M2a. Control-motor 352a also drives press equipment 2G and 2D. These press equipments are the things of the same mold as what was explained to the detail by drawing 2. Spacing of press equipment 2G to longitudinal-plane-of-symmetry M2 a-M2a and 2D can be adjusted by Handles 232a and 242a.

[0044] 1st arm (base arm) 312a is attached in reciprocation shaft 3D2a through the center-of-rotation 31R2a. If the radiation core C of heart type 1 is taken as a reference point, center-of-rotation 31R2a is located outside the front face of heart type 1. 1st arm 312a has migration head 31T2a, and 2nd arm 322a by which joint connection was made at center-of-rotation 32R2a of the 2nd arm is attached in migration head 31T2of 1st arm 312a a. This 2nd arm 322a has migration head 32T2a. In order to control the relative position of 2nd arm 322a to 1st arm 312a, in this example, the parallelogram is formed using auxiliary arm 342a attached so that the surroundings of reciprocation shaft 34D2a might be reciprocated through center-of-rotation 34R2a. When the radiation core C of heart type 1 is made into a reference point, center-of-rotation 31R2a is located on the outside of the front face of heart type 1 between the front face of heart type 1, and center-of-rotation 31R2of 1st arm 312a a. Auxiliary arm 342a has migration head 34T2a by which joint connection was made in 2nd arm 322a, and the 2nd arm has middle center-of-rotation 32I2a located between center-of-rotation 32R2of 2nd arm 322a a, and migration head 32T2a. The guidance tubing 6 is directly supported by migration head 32T2of 2nd arm 322a a. Orbital 632a has shown movement of the guidance tubing 6. This equipment that has two reciprocation arms can be used for movement to the point of the arbitration of the tread bottom which contains the shoulder of the opposite side from a bead, and can arrange a code in the condition of having overlapped partially with each single-sided carcass.

[0045] <u>Drawing 9</u> shows the modification which has reciprocation arm system 32b from which the control means of movement of 2nd arm 322b [as opposed to 1st arm (base arm) 312b in what was explained by the system of <u>drawing 8</u>] differs. This modification has drive-pinion 3112b which has a pulley with a gear tooth, and a belt and which puts a core on center-of-rotation 31R2b of the 1st arm



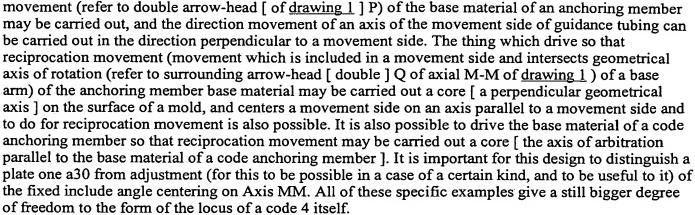
[0046] <u>Drawing 9</u> shows 1st arm (base arm) 312b attached in the reciprocation shaft through center-of-rotation 31R2b. 1st arm 312b has migration head 31T 2b in the opposite side of center-of-rotation 31R2b, and 2nd arm 322b by which joint connection was made at center-of-rotation 32R2b of the 2nd arm is attached in migration head 31T 2b of 1st arm 312b. This 2nd arm 322b has migration head 32T 2b, and the guidance tubing 6 is directly attached in this. Drive-pinion 3112b is united with flange 372b fixed to the plate (not shown to <u>drawing 9</u>). Follower pinion 3122b is united with 2nd arm 322b (relative rotation is impossible). Chain 3612b is hung between the 1st pinion and the 2nd pinion. The diameter of the 1st pinion and the 2nd pinion is the same, and 2nd arm 322b is always parallel to each pinion during movement. Reciprocation arm system 32b is also replaceable with reciprocation arm system 32a of <u>drawing 8</u>. The aforementioned explanation about possibility of controlling the degree of freedom between a plate and flange 371b, and controlling the relative position of flange 371b to a plate is applied to this flange 372b and all similar flanges.

[0047] Don't forget for the guidance tubing 6 to exercise periodically the inside of the flat surface called a "movement side" in all the modifications. Moreover, the dimension of the field where the reinforcement code 4 is arranged for the field where preliminary covering of heart type 1 was carried out is determined. Furthermore, while the guidance tubing 6 carries out order movement in the movement side of guidance tubing, heart type 1 revolves around the axis. Of course, this movement of heart type 1 synchronizes with movement before and after guidance tubing. The true locus of the arch 40 of a code 4 is the function of the movement side of guidance tubing, and a heart type relative position, and is the function of the relative motion of heart type 1 and movement before and after the guidance tubing 6. [0048] Although the locus of an arch 40 is a radial in drawing 1, and 4, 7 and 8 mostly since drawing 1, and 4, 7 and 8 are for the carcass (or carcass part) manufacture for radial-ply tires, of course, it is not limited to this. Other examples are shown in the 3rd example expressed to drawing 12. Generally in drawing 12, the locus of arch 403a has accomplished the include angle (about 15 degrees - 30 degrees) not to a radial but to belt reinforcing materials.

[0049] The 3rd example shown in drawing 12 has single reciprocation arm (base arm) 313a, this is suitable for manufacture of the reinforcing materials in the belt of a tire, and this system fits movement from the shoulder for manufacturing for example, belt reinforcing materials to a shoulder. Base arm 313a is attached in the reciprocation shaft through the center-of-rotation 31R3a. Base arm 313a has migration head 31 T3a, and the guidance tubing 6 is directly attached in this. If the movement side where the guidance tubing 6 exercises approximately is said according to the general practice for measuring an include angle in the tire field, it will accomplish the include angle of about 20 degrees to a field perpendicular to axis of rotation of heart type 1. Press equipment 2G and 2D also exercise in the same movement side. Although the code 4 passes along hollow core 513of reciprocation shaft 3D3a a by the example shown in drawing 12 and big code compensatory-system 523a is prepared in the upstream, it is not a limited ****** thing at this example.

[0050] Since the carcass which has cross ply in a sidewall is manufactured, an axis parallel to the revolving shaft of heart type 1 is made for the base material (plate 30 grade) of a code anchoring member to incline as a core, and the movement side of guidance tubing can also be changed from [entire] radiation. It is also possible to combine the aforementioned preparation explained by manufacture of ****** and belt reinforcing materials. A heart type can also be sharply driven at high speed (one eighth of rotations [as opposed to / For example, / movement before and after the reciprocation arm system 3]) so that the code arrangement include angle of the function of the rate of a chain and a heart type rate may be obtained without changing the description of the member of above equipment at all (in all the above-mentioned examples, the rate of heart type 1 be related only to an arrangement pitch).

[0051] Hereafter, although still more nearly another modification is explained, these are applicable to all the modifications of all examples given in this specification. Mutual movement can be given to the base material (refer to <u>drawing 1</u> for plate 301a etc.) of a code anchoring member in order to change the anchoring locus of the code 4 on heart type 1. For example, it drives so that the direction of axis mutual



[0052] The advantage of this invention simplifies the device of equipment in which a well-known basic method is enforced conventionally, and it is in the ability to suit that it can be made light and the modification of all the tire reinforcing materials that cover the wide range tire which should be manufactured only by easy adjustment. The reciprocation arm system of this invention does not have a cantilever part, does not almost have an inertia part, and is suitable for gathering an operating speed. Carcass reinforcing materials can also be manufactured with the pass (each pass covers the whole heart type) of plurality (n). When arranging a radial arch with one pass in a pitch P, the location on heart type 1 of the arch 40 arranged with a series of n pass is shifted to a circumferencial direction with the phase corresponding to P/n. This contractor could use this invention by various approaches according to the request structure of a tire.

[0053] When manufacturing a single-sided carcass, each single-sided carcass can be manufactured to coincidence on heart type both sides by forming this invention equipment in each (<u>drawing 8</u>, <u>drawing 9</u> referring-to), and heart type one side. It is also possible to carry out sequential manufacture of each piece of a single-sided carcass. the locus of an arch has one advantage of this invention in the ability of the profile of a mold to be imitated by two or more use including ** which accomplishes a very different include angle (for example, about 20 degrees) in 90 degrees. It is possible to amount to a series of two points of the mold which is in each field to which a tire bead corresponds without colliding with a mold also in this case.

[Translation done.]

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

- [Drawing 1] The notional perspective view showing the 1st example of this invention equipment.
- [Drawing 2] Detail drawing of the press equipment of the above-mentioned equipment.
- [Drawing 3] Drawing showing the 1st modification of the 1st example.
- [Drawing 4] Detail drawing of each actuation phase of the equipment of the 1st example.
- [Drawing 5] Detail drawing of the 1st example which is not shown in drawing 1.
- [Drawing 6] Drawing showing the 2nd modification of the 1st example.
- [Drawing 7] Drawing showing a series of actuation phases of the 2nd modification of the 1st example.
- [Drawing 8] The radiation direction sectional view showing the 2nd example of this invention equipment.
- [Drawing 9] Drawing showing the modification of the 2nd example.
- [Drawing 10] The top view of a controlling mechanism used in the 1st example shown in <u>drawing 1</u> (called the cross section in a regular field, and a "longitudinal plane of symmetry" by <u>drawing 1</u> by Axis MM and the geometrical axis of shaft 3D).
- [Drawing 11] The sectional view which met the A-A line of drawing 10.
- [Drawing 12] The notional perspective view showing the 3rd example of this invention equipment.
- [Description of Notations]
- 1 Heart Type
- 2 Press Equipment
- 4 Code
- 6 Interior Material of Proposal
- 31 Base Arm
- 31T Migration head
- 31R Center of rotation
- 311 Driving Pulley
- 312 Follower Pulley

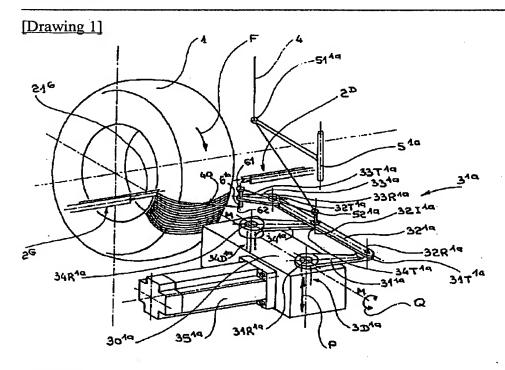
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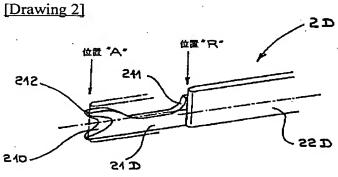
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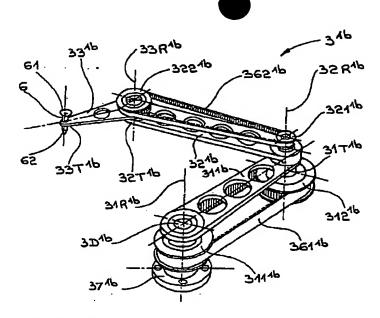
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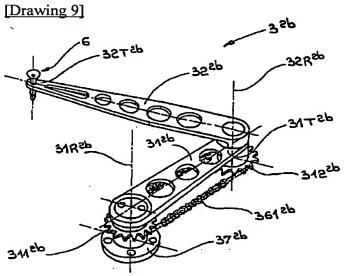
DRAWINGS



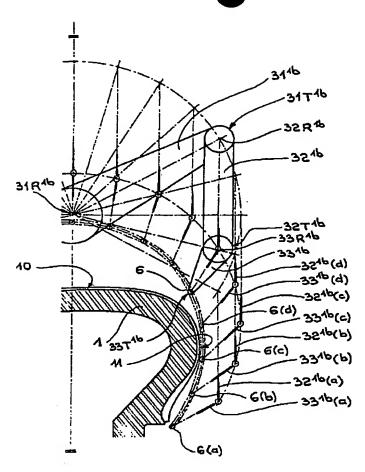


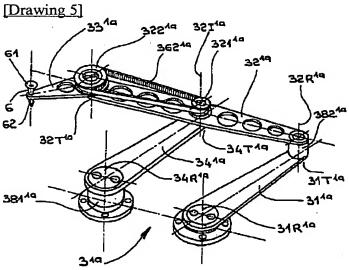
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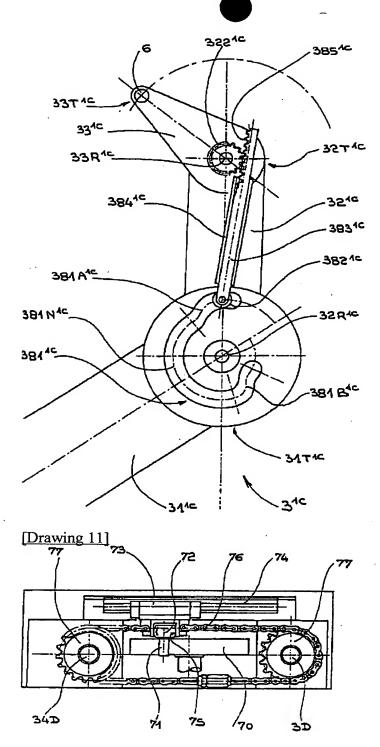


[Drawing 4]

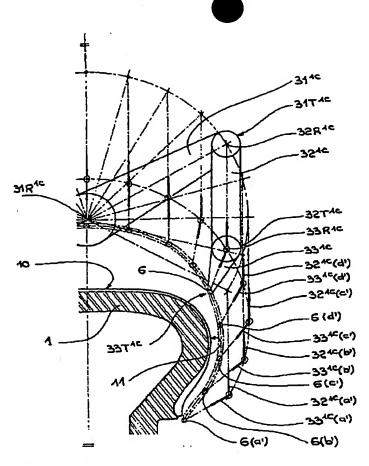


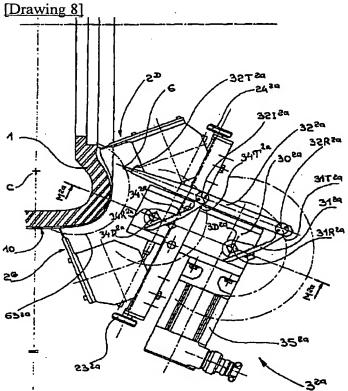


[Drawing 6]

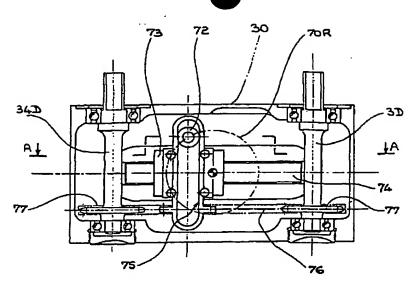


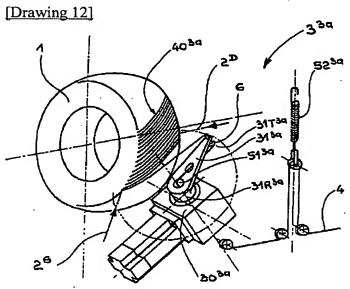
[Drawing 7]





[Drawing 10]





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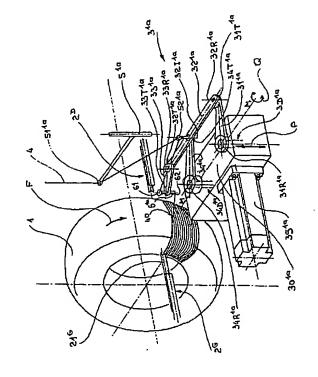
(54) 【発明の名称】 一本のコードからタイヤ補強材を製造するための往復動アーム装置

(57) 【要約】

(修正有)

【課題】タイヤ成形の内部空洞と同じまたは類似の形状 の円管状の型の上で補強材を製造する方法であって、簡 単な調整だけで広範囲のタイヤサイズへの対応が可能で 生産速度が速い補強材の成形方法を提供する。

【解決手段】案内部材6の一連の往復動によって、カー カス補強材を構成するコード4を硬質芯型1上に互いに 並べてアーチ状に配置する方法において、案内部材の移 動手段が、回転中心31Rと移送ヘッド31Tとを有す る少なくとも一つのベースアーム31と、このベースア ームを回転中心の周で往復動させる制御手段とを有し、 かつ回転中心の幾何学軸線が動作位置で型の完全に外側 にあるようにする。



【特許請求の範囲】

供給装置を介して供給されるコード 【請求項1】

(4) をほぼ環状の型の上に所望の軌跡に従ってアーチ 状に並べてタイヤ補強材を順次作っていく、ほぼ環状の 型と協働して用いられるタイヤ補強材を製造する装置で あって、下記 a) ~ c):

- a) コードが自由にスライドできる案内部材 (6) と、
- b) 前記案内部材を周期的な前後運動で移動させて、コ ードの上記の軌跡内の各所望端部の近傍へ案内部材を周 期的に順次運ぶ移動手段と、
- c) 軌跡の各端部近傍でコード(4) を型の表面上に押 し付ける押圧装置(2)と、を有する装置において、 下記i) およびii) を特徴とする装置:
- i)移動手段が回転中心(31R)と移送ヘッド(31 T) とを有する少なくとも1つのベースアーム (31) と、このベースアームをその回転中心の周で往復動運動 させる制御手段とを有し、ベースアームの移送ヘッド (31T) は案内部材を上記の軌跡の一端部から他端部 まで直接または間接的に運び、
- i i) 回転中心の幾何学軸線は動作位置で型の完全に外 側にある。

【請求項2】 ベースアーム(31)の移送ヘッド(3 1T) が案内部材(6) を直接支持する請求項1に記載 の装置。

【請求項3】 第2アームの回転中心がベースアームの 移送ヘッド (31T) に取付けられ、第2アーム (3 2) が案内部材を軌跡の一端部から他端部まで直接また は間接的に運ぶ移送ヘッド(31T)を有する第2アー ムの回転中心 (32R) に関節接続された第2アーム (32) を有し、ベースアーム (31) に対する第2ア ームの相対位置を制御する制御手段を有する請求項1に 記載の装置。

供給装置を介して供給されるコードを、 【請求項4】 ほぼ環状の型と協働して、型の表面上にコードの所望軌 跡に従ってアーチ状に並べてタイヤ補強材を順次作成し ていく製造装置であって、下記:

- a) コードが自由にスライドできる案内部材と、
- b) 前記案内部材を周期的な前後運動で移動させて、コ ードの上記の軌跡内の各所望端部の近傍へ案内部材を周 期的に順次運ぶ移動手段と、
- c) 軌跡の各端部近傍でコード(4) を型の表面上に押 し付ける押圧装置(2)と、を有する装置において、 移動手段が往復動ベースアームと少なくとも1本の他の 往復動アームの少なくとも2本のアームを有し、この少 なくとも2本のアームはそれぞれ回転中心と移送ヘッド とを有し、2本のアームの幾何学的回転軸線は互いに平 行であり、さらに、各アームに各幾何学的回転軸線を中 心とする往復動運動を伝える制御手段を有し、ベースア ームの移送ヘッドは第2の往復動アームの回転中心を支 持し、移送ヘッドが軌跡の一端部から他端部まで直接ま 50 回転中心(321)と同心な駆動プーリ(321)を備

たは間接的に案内部材を運び、ベースアームに対する第

2アームの相対位置を制御する制御手段を備えているこ とを特徴とする装置。

【請求項5】 ベースアーム (31) に対する第2アー ム (32) の相対位置を制御する制御手段がベースアー ムの回転中心と同心な駆動プーリ (311)を有し、こ の駆動プーリの角度位置がベースアームの往復動制御と は独立して制御され、第2アームと一体な従動プーリ

(312)を有し、2つのプーリに歯付きベルト(36 1)が掛けられている請求項3または4に記載の装置。

【請求項6】 駆動プーリ(311)が空間内で固定さ れている請求項5に記載の装置。

【請求項7】 第2アームの回転中心(32R)に関節 接続された第2アーム (32) を有し、第2アームの回 転中心がベースアーム(31)の移送ヘッド(31T) に取付けられ、第2アームが軌跡の一端部から他端部ま で直接または間接的に案内部材を運ぶ移送ヘッド(32 T)を有し、回転中心(34R)の周りを往復動する補 助アーム (34) をさらに有し、この補助アームの回転 中心の幾何学的回転軸線が型の表面と前記ベースアーム の回転の幾何学軸線との間で型の表面の完全に外側に位 置し、補助アームは移送ヘッド(34T)を有し、第2 アームは第2アームの回転中心(32R)と第2アーム の移送ヘッド (32T) との間に中間の回転中心 (32 I) を有し、この中間の回転中心は補助アームの移送へ ッド (34T) に関節接続されている請求項1に記載の 装置。

【請求項8】 第2アームの移送ヘッド(32T)が案 内部材(6)を直接支持する請求項3、4または7に記 載の装置。

【請求項9】 回転中心(33R)を介して第2アーム の移送ヘッド (32T) に関節接続された第3アーム (33)を有し、第3アームが軌跡の一端部から他端部 まで直接または間接的に案内部材を運ぶ移送ヘッド(3 3T)を有し、第2アームに対する第3アームの相対位 置を制御する制御手段を有する請求項3~7のいずれか 一項に記載の装置。

【請求項10】 第2アームの移送ヘッド(33T)が 案内部材(6)を直接支持する請求項9に記載の装置。 【請求項11】 第2アームに対する第3アームの相対 位置を制御する制御手段が基本的に第2アームの回転中 心 (32R) と同心な駆動プーリ (321) を有し、こ の駆動プーリはベースアーム (31) と一体であり、回 転中心が第3アーム(33)と一体な従動プーリ(32 2)を有し、駆動プーリと従動プーリとの間に歯付きべ ルト (362) が掛けられている請求項9と5、また

【請求項12】 第2アームに対する第3アームの相対 位置を制御する制御手段が基本的に第2アームの中間の

は、10と5に記載の装置。

え、この駆動プーリは中間アーム (34) と一体であ り、回転中心が第3アーム(33)と一体な従動プーリ (322)を有し、駆動プーリと従動プーリには歯付き ベルト (362) が掛けられている請求項9と7、また は、10と7に記載の装置。

【請求項13】 第2アームに対する第3アームの相対 位置を制御する制御手段が基本的にベースアームの移送 ヘッドに配置されたカムと、第3アームと一体な歯車 と、第2アームに対してスライド案内される接続ロッド とを有し、この接続ロッドは片側にカムと協働するカム フォロワーを、反対側には歯車と係合したラックを有す る請求項9または10に記載の装置。

【請求項14】 案内部材を移動する手段の支持体を有 し、この支持体に交互運動を伝えて芯型(1)上のコー ド (4) の軌跡を曲げる手段を有する請求項1~13の いずれか一項に記載の装置。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明はタイヤの製造方法、 特にタイヤ補強材を構成するコードの配置方法に関する ものである。本発明は特に、タイヤ製造時にタイヤ素材 を支持するほぼ円環状の型(タイヤの内部空洞と同じ形 状またはそれに類似した形状を有する型)の上で補強材 を製造する手段に関するものである。

【従来の技術】

【0002】本発明の技術分野では、タイヤ補強材の製 造がタイヤ自体の組立てに組み込めるようになっている 方法および装置はすでに知られている。つまり、補強プ ライ等の半製品を用いるより、タイヤ製造時にコードリ・ ールから単数または複数の補強材をその場で製造すると いうことである。これらの方法および装置の内、欧州特 許第0、580、055号に記載の解決方法が、その外 面が完成タイヤの内部空洞の型に実質的に対応するカー カス補強材を硬質の芯型上に製造するのに最も適合して いる。この特許明細書では、カーカス補強材を構成する ためのコードが、プーリに設置されたチェーン上に固定 された案内管を介して、硬質芯型上に隣接するアーチ状 に取付けられ、一種のフォーク部材を形成して芯型を取 り囲むようにする装置を開示する。案内管は芯型の周り を前後運動して、その往路および復路で各々1つずつの アーチを順次交互に取付け、適切な押圧装置を用いて前 記アーチの端部を押し付けて、未硬化ゴムで予備被覆さ れた硬質芯型上にアーチを形成する。

[0003]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】本発明の目的は、実質 的に同じ方法で、芯型上に補強コードを配置する設備の 変形例を提供することにある。

[0004]

【課題を解決するための手段】本発明は、適当な供給装 置から必要に応じて供給されるコードをほぼ環状の型の 50 例えばコードリールおよび利用可能であればリールから

上にコードの所望軌跡に従ってアーチ状を並べてタイヤ 補強材を順次作成していくタイヤ補強材の製造装置であ って、下記a)~c):

- a) コードが自由にスライドできる案内部材と、
- b) 前記案内部材を周期的な前後運動で移動させて、コ ードの上記の軌跡内の各所望端部の近傍へ案内部材を周 期的に順次運ぶ移動手段と、
- c) 軌跡の各端部近傍でコードを型の表面上に押し付け る押圧装置と、を有する装置において、下記 i)および i i) を特徴とする装置を提供する:
- i) 移動手段が回転中心と移送ヘッドとを有する少なく とも1つのベースアームと、このベースアームをその回 転中心の周で往復動運動させる制御手段とを有し、ベー スアームの移送ヘッドは案内部材を上記の軌跡の一端部 から他端部まで直接または間接的に運び、
- i i) 回転中心の幾何学軸線は動作位置で型の完全に外 側にある。

[0005]

【実施の形態】本発明装置はループを形成し、このルー プを芯型に対して押し付ける押圧装置を含むので、欧州 特許出願第0,580,055号に記載を参照すること ができる。この押圧装置は基本的にフォーク部材とハン マーとからなるということを思い出されたい。欧州特許 出願第0,580,055号に記載の押圧装置の実施例 は2、3の詳細な部分を別にして以下で説明する新しい 押圧装置にもそのまま使用できる。本発明の主要な違い はコード取付け部材、正確にはコードが自由にスライド できる案内部材(すなわち案内管)の駆動方法にある。 すなわち、上記特許に記載のチェーンシステムの代わり に往復動アームシステムまたは以下に記載のシステムが 用いられる。

【0006】コード案内部材を駆動する本発明の新規な 手段を詳細に説明する前に、いくつかの点を思い出して おくことは有用であろう。まず初めに、上記特許と同様 に、「コード」という用語は全く一般的な意味を有し、 単一の糸、複数の糸、例えばケーブルや撚糸等の集成 体、少数のグループ化したケーブルまたは撚糸を含み、 材料は任意であり、「コード」がゴムで予備被覆されて てもいなくてもよいということを理解しなければならな い。本明細魯で「アーチ」という用語は1点から他点ま で延びた補強材のコードの一部を表す。タイヤの全周に 配置される全てのアーチがいわゆる補強体を形成する。 ここで定義のアーチはカーカスの一部またはトレッド用 補強材の一部またはその他の任意形式の補強材の一部で よい。このアーチは取付け途中でコードを切断して分離 してもよく、また、例えばループを介して補強材中で全 てが連結されていてもよい。

【0007】本発明では基本的に補強コードを連続的に 並べて完成品の形にできるだけ近い形にする。コードは 5

引き出されるコードの張力を制御する装置等の適切な供給装置を介して必要に応じて供給される。このコードから補強材を製造する本発明装置はタイヤがその上に製造される型(硬質の芯型または補強されたブラダ)と協働する。完全な補強材を製造するのに取付け部材の複数の連続パスの2回のパスの間でコードを切断するかしないかは重要ではない。

【0008】「放射方向、軸線方向、円周方向」という 用語で位置または方向を表す場合または半径を表す場合 は、上にタイヤが作られる芯型またはタイヤ自身が基準 点になる。基準の幾何学軸線は型の回転軸である。同様 に、上記特許で既に指摘したように、本発明のコード取 付け部材によって補強材、例えばカーカス補強材を製造 する製造中にコードの取付けピッチを変化させることが できる。「取付けピッチ」は2つの互いに隣接するコー ド間の空間とコードの直径との和で表される距離であ る。カーカス補強材の場合にはコード間の空間は測定半 径によって変るということが知られている。ここで言い たいのはこの変化ではなく、所定半径でピッチが変わる ことである。そのためには案内部材の速度を変えずに、 任意の適切な規則の関数で型の回転速度を変えるだけで よい。それによって例えばラジアルカーカスの場合、カ ーカス補強コードが所定の放射方向位置に対して変わる ように制御されたピッチで取付けられたタイヤが得られ

【0009】本発明は種々の実施例で実施できる。3つの主要な実施例を下記に示す。第1実施例では一連の3つの機能的な往復動アームを用いる。この第1実施例に対する変形例も記載してある。この一連の3つの機能的な往復動アームはタイヤの一方のビードから他方のビードまで延びたカーカスアーチを配置するのに用いるのが好ましい。第2実施例では一連の2つの機能的な往復動アームを用いる。この第2の実施例に対する変形例も記載してある。この一連の2つの機能的な往復動アームは例えばタイヤのビードからショルダーまで延びるカーカスアーチを配置するのに用いるのが好ましい。第3実施例では単一の機能的な往復動アームを用いる。最も単純な取付けを実施するのにはこのアームで十分である。

【0010】一連の「n」個の機能的な往復動アームを配置して用いる場合(n>1)、「n番目のアーム」という用語はコード案内部材が直接固定される往復動アームを表し、ベースアームは常に「第1往復動アーム」である。各往復動アームはカスケード状に配置され、一般に往復動アーム「p」(p>nである)の移送ヘッドがコード案内部材を直接または「間接的」(単数なと述べたのはこのためである。全ての実施例で第1往復動アームの幾何学的回転中心軸は作業位置において型の完全に外にあり、この中心軸は決して型と接触しない

(その延長線上で接触もしない)。

【0011】本発明装置のコード案内装置は実質的に平面に含まれる運動すなわちベースアームの幾何学的回転軸に垂直な運動面を描く。本発明装置の他の観点では、ベースアームまたは変形例で用いられる往復動アームが長い平面であり、ベースアームこの運動面を往復動するか、全ての往復動アームが平行移動するか、隣接する平面の1つがこの運動面に非常に近くなるか、移動する平面と合流する。

1 【0012】本発明の別の観点では、一連の往復動アームの型に対する各位置を考慮せずに言って、本発明は互いに運動面に対して垂直に関節接続された一連のアームを有するタイヤ補強材製造装置を提供する。この装置は適切な供給装置から連続的に必要に応じて供給されるコードから成る補強材をほぼ環状の型と協働して用いて製造する。この装置は:

- a) コードが自由にスライドできる案内部材と、
- b) 前記案内部材を周期的な前後運動で移動させて、コードの上記の軌跡内の各所望端部の近傍へ案内部材を周 20 期的に順次運ぶ移動手段と、
 - c) 軌跡の各端部近傍でコード(4) を型の表面上に押し付ける押圧装置(2)と、

を有する。本発明の特徴は移動手段が往復動ベースアームと少なくとも1本の他の往復動アームの少なくとも2本のアームを有し、この少なくとも2本のアームはそれぞれ回転中心と移送ヘッドとを有し、2本のアームの幾何学的回転軸線は互いに平行であり、さらに、各アームに発援何学的回転軸線を中心とする往復動運動を伝える制御手段を有し、ベースアームの移送ヘッドが軌跡の一端部から他端部まで直接または間接的に案内部材を運び、ベースアームに対する第2アームの相対位置を制する制御手段を備えている点にある。本発明の上記の全ての観点は添付図面を参照した以下の説明から理解できよう。なお、本発明が下記実施例に限定されるものではない。

[0013]

【実施例】図1は型(forme)がタイヤ内面形状を規定する着脱自在な硬質の芯型1であることを示している。しかし、これに限定されるものではない。この芯型1はゴム層10(図7参照)、例えばブチルゴムをベースにした密封ゴム層とカーカスコードを確実に保持するためのゴム層とで被覆されている。芯型1上に配置されたコード4は芯型1を被覆するこのゴム層10の粘着効果によって保持される。芯型1は図示していない任意の装置によって回転させるということは理解できよう。

【0014】取付け部材は基本的に往復動アームシステム31aと押圧装置2G、2Dとからなる。なお、図の参照番号では類似部材に対しては同じ主参照番号を付け(例 えば往復動アームシステムには「3」を付け)、その実

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施例や変形例は指数を付けて表している(例えば第1実施例の変形例「a」には「'a」を付けてある)。特定の指数の無い参照番号は各変形例で常に同じ部材であるか、全ての実施例および変形例に共通のものを示している。

【0015】図1に示す第1実施例では、往復動アーム システム 314 がカスケード状に配置された 3本の機能的 な往復動アーム3118、3218、3318と、補助アーム 3418とを有している。本発明では3本の往復動アーム を有するこの構造によってコード4の案内部材を一方の ビードから他方のビードへ容易に移動させることがで き、本発明装置を各ビードにおいて押圧装置 2 °、 2 ° と 一緒に運動させることができる。コード案内部材は全て の実施例で案内管 (oeilleton、アイレット) 6になって いるが、これに限定されるものではない。この案内管 6 は最後の往復動アーム33に取り付けられている。詳細 な説明をする前に、この往復動アームシステム3は前記 欧州特許第0,580,055号に記載のチェーンシス テムと同じ役目をし、押圧装置 2 ° 、 2 ° はこの欧州特許 第0、580、055号に記載の役割をするように適当 な方法で位置決めされるということを簡単に述べてお く。

【0016】往復動アームシステム31aはプレート301a上に取付けられて、案内管6に芯型1の上方を通過する運動(多くの実施例では芯型1の周りを回る運動)を描かせる。図示した全ての例で往復動アームシステム3は案内管6を一つの面内で運動させる。案内管6は漏斗形をしており、コード4が到達する側は大きな開口部61を有し、コード4が出ていく側は小孔62になっている(図3も参照)。この小孔62が案内部材6の上記面内での運動をする。一般にこの小孔62の出口部分はほぼ運動面内(案内管6の案内方向に垂直な面内)に配置されるので、小孔62のエッジを注意深く加工してコード4に傷を付けないようにする。変形例では案内管を離れる際のコードの平均向きに近い向きに案内管をセョトすることができる。

【0017】プレート30^{1a}は往復動アームシステムをモーター駆動する往復動シャフト3D^{1a}(図10、図11を参照)を備えている。この往復動シャフト3D^{1a}の幾何学軸線は芯型1の外側放射線上にある。換言すれば、往復動シャフト3D^{1a}の幾何学軸線の延長線は芯型1と接触せず、芯型1の表面の外側に位置する。往復動シャフト3D^{1a}は連続的回転せず、360°以下の所定の円弧角度で往復動運動する。この円弧角度の正確な値は往復動アームシステム3の正確な構成およびその使用目的によって決まる。

【0018】往復動アームシステム3は非常にコンパク は図5を用いて以下で説明する。ここでは、第2の往復トである。この往復動アームシステム3に押圧装置2と 動アームに対して可動な第3の往復動アームを用いるこモータおよび駆動機構を含む取付け部材の集合体がサブ とによって案内管6を直接支持した移送端部をビードにアセンブリを形成する。このサブアセンブリは簡単な方 50 接近させることができるということ、換言すれば、第1

法で芯型に接近、後退させることができ、また、芯型に 他の装置(例えばタイヤ製造用の装置や、芯型をタイヤ 製造の他のステーションへ移動させる装置)を接近、後 退させることができる。

【0019】第1アーム (ベースアーム) 3118は往復 動シャフト3D1aに回転中心31R1aの所で取付けられ ている(図1)。この第1アーム3113は回転中心31 R¹aの反対側端部に移送ヘッド31 T¹aを有する。第2 アーム3210の関節接続された回転中心32尺10は第1 アーム311ªの移送ヘッド31T¹ªに取付けられてい る。この第2アーム321aは移送ヘッド32Tlaを有し ている。第1アーム31¹゚に対する第2アーム32¹゚の 相対位置を制御するためにこの実施例では平行四辺形を 形成する補助アーム3414が用いられる。この補助アー ム341aの回転中心34R1aは往復動シャフト34D1a に取付けられて往復動する。回転中心34R^{1a}は芯型1 の表面より放射方向外側で且つ芯型1の表面と第1アー ム3118の回転中心31R18との間の放射線上に位置し ている。補助アーム3414は第2アーム3214に関節接 続された移送ヘッド34Tlaを有し、第2アームはこの 端部に中間の回転中心32 I 1aを有する。この回転中心 32 I 1a は第2アーム321aの回転中心32 R1a と移送 ヘッド32T1aとの間に位置している。

【0020】回転中心31R1a、34R1aおよび移送へ ッド31T¹⁸、34T¹⁸が存在する特異点が平行四辺形 を形成しなくてもよいことに注意しなくてはならない。 これらの点は回転中心31R1a、34R1aを結ぶ軸線M Mおよびシャフト3Dの幾何学軸線(およびこれと平行 なシャフト34D1ªの幾何学軸線)で規定される中心位 置が中心面 (plan median) を通る際に互いに正確に整 合するのが好ましい。すなわち、案内管6の運動の軌跡 は中心面に対して対称になり、案内管は芯型1上の規定 された各ビード領域の近傍でも完全に対称な運動をす る。しかし、このことが案内管の運動の終点で中心面に 対して対称にならない場合(例えばアーチの軌跡が対称 ではないタイヤを製造する場合)を除外するものではな いということは理解できよう。これは各ビードの取付け 部(一般的な用語では取付けビード)の直径が異なるタ イヤを製造する場合に相当する。

【0021】本発明装置は第3アーム33¹*を有し、この第3アーム33¹*の回転中心33R¹*は第2アーム32¹*の移送ヘッド32T¹*に関節接続されている。第3アーム33¹*は移送ヘッド33T¹*を有し、案内管6はこの移送ヘッド33T¹*を有し、案内管6はこの移送ヘッド33T¹*に直接取付けられている。第2アーム32¹*に対する第3アーム33¹*の相対位置の制御手段(図を複雑にしないために図1には示していない)は図5を用いて以下で説明する。ここでは、第2の往復動アームに対して可動な第3の往復動アームを用いることによって案内管6を直接支持した移送端部をビードに接近させることができるということ、換言すれば、第1

アームの回転中心に対して芯型1の壁の周りを巡って、放射方向の観察方向に対して壁で隠されていた領域へアクセスする運動を助けるということだけを述べておく。また、第2アーム32^{1a}に対して第3アーム33^{1a}が所定の方向を向いているので各アーム間の機能の自由度が大きいということは良く理解できよう。

【0022】図10、図11に詳細に示すように、モータ351aは2本のシャフト3D1aおよび34D1aをモーター駆動して全てのアーム311a、321a、331a、341aの運動を制御するのが好ましい。モータ351aはディスク70を回転する。このディスク70の所定の偏心位置にはシャフト71が取付けられている。このシャフト71はローラ72を支持している。キャリッジ73はプレート301aのケーシングに形成されたスライド74上を軸線方向に動く。キャリッジ73はスライド74上のキャリッジ73の前後運動方向に対して直角な方向に対して直線状スロット75を有している。チェーン(テンダー付き)76は2つの同一のピニオン77上に巻かれており、その両端部はキャリッジ73に接続している。各ピニオン77はシャフト3Dおよびシャフト34Dに固定されている。

【0023】モータ35が制御シャフト71を一定速度で回転駆動すると、ローラ72が一定速度で円運動70 Rをする。その結果、ローラ72はスロット75内を上下動し、キャリッジ73を軸方向に動かす。すなわち、一定速度の回転運動が速度が正弦波形に変化する交互直線運動に変換される。この交互直線運動はチェーン76 および互いに同一な2つのピニオン77を介してシャフト3Dおよび34Dの360°以下の弧を描く往復動運動に変換される。この往復動運動の振幅はディスク70上でのシャフト71(従ってローラ72)の偏心半径を調整することで調整できる。この機械的な運動変換法則にモータ35のロータの回転に特有な任意の制御法則を重ねることも可能である。

【0024】図1の説明に戻ると、コード4はリール(図示せず)および供給装置 5^{1a} を介して供給される。供給装置 5^{1a} はコード4が取付け部材に正確に供給されるようにする。コード4は周期的に変化する速度(負の速度になることもある)で取付け部材によって引き出されるので、供給装置 5^{1a} はコード4の張力を制御し、必要な場合には取付け部材 3^{1a} とリールとの間の補償をする手段を有している。コード4は第1リング 51^{1a} を通る。この第1リング 51^{1a} は案内管6が周期運動をする運動面から少し離れ、芯型1に対して真中に配置されている。次いで、コード4は第2アーム 32^{1a} に固定されたリング52を通る。

【0025】さらに、コード4は案内管6を通る。案内管6は一方のビードから他方のビードへ、より正確には一方のビードに近い位置から他方のビードに近い位置へ往復運動する。本発明の基本サイクルは下記段階:

1) コードを十分な時間型に当接させた状態で、案内管 の運動面内で案内管(案内部材)を第1端部まで移動させ、

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- 2) この第1端部でコードを型に押圧した状態で、少なくとも十分な時間押圧装置でコードを保持し、
- 3) 反対方向へ向かって第1段階を第2端部まで繰り返
- 4) 第2端部でコードを型に押圧した状態で、別の押圧 装置でコードを保持する、

の を有し、案内部材の運動と同期して型を動かして、型の表面上に所望の軌跡に沿って所望数のコード4のアーチが配置されるまで上記の基本サイクルを繰り返す。

【0026】図2は押圧装置2[®]を示している。この押圧装置2[®]はフォーク部材21[®]とハンマー22[®]とを有し、これらは後退位置R(芯型1から遠い位置)と前進位置Aとの間を移動する。前進位置のハンマーは破線で示してある。図の参照番号では、押圧装置の各部材に主参照番号(例えばフォーク部材に対しては「21」)を付け、押圧装置の特定位置(図1では左側または右側)を表すために指数「⁶」(左)または「⁹」(右)を付けてある。特定指数の無い参照番号は押圧装置がどらか側にあってもよい場合か、一般的な場合を表す。

【0027】フォーク部材およびハンマー22のそれぞれの機能に関しては前記の欧州特許第0,580,055号の説明を参照されたい。この特許には前進位置Aおよび後退位置Rでのそれぞれの役目が記載されている。図2からフォーク部材21およびハンマー22が平行なブレードの形をしていることが理解できよう。フォーク部材21はハンマーに対して放射方向で常に芯型1の回転軸側に配置されている。フォーク部材21はコード4をその中心に掴むためにV字型ヘッド210を有している。コード4を把持すの際には「V」で形成される面でコード4に垂直に配置される。コード4を放射方向に配置しなくてはならない場合(図1の場合)には、フォーク部材21を形成するブレードは芯型1と同心な円に正接する方向を向いている。フォーク部材21は凹み211を有している。この役目は以下で説明する。

【0028】フォーク部材21はコード4を芯型1へ向かって運ぶものであるということは理解できよう。従って、芯型1へ向かうフォーク部材の前進運動は案内管6がコード4をその前後運動の一方の端部へ導いた時(すなわち本発明装置がほぼ図4の形になった時)に開始される。フォーク部材21の運動はフォーク部材がコード4を芯型1を被覆しているゴムに固定した時に止まる。従って、フォーク部材21は十分な力でコード4を所望位置に正確に接着することができる。図1に戻って、往復動アームシステム3が運動を続けると、芯型1が所望の取付けピッチ(これは矢印Fで概念的に示した芯型1の回転運動の関数である)で回転運動し、フォーク部材21の先端212の周りにループが形成され、芯型1上

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に新しいコード4のアーチ40を取付ける運動が始まる(図1参照)。上記の凹み211は戻り段階(この段階ではフォーク部材21が芯型1に当接している)中に案内管6をフォーク部材21を越えて通すことができるようにする。ループの大きさは先端212の寸法の関数であることは理解できよう。

【0029】ハンマー22は案内管6の戻り段階後にフォーク部材21が作動した後に作動する。ハンマー22は放射方向のわずかに高い位置でコード4を押圧する。ハンマー22はフォーク部材21が後退する間コード4を保持しているのが好ましい。すなわち、フォーク部材が後退する間にハンマー22によってコード4を保持することによって、フォーク部材21の先端212の周りに形成されるコード4のループがフォーク部材21と一緒に運ばれるのを防止することができる(コード4はゴムに接着した時でもフォーク部材に接着する傾向がある)。これによってコード4を確実にビードに固定(アンカー)することができる。

【0030】往復動アームシステム31aと同期するフォーク部材21およびハンマー22の前進位置への移動お 20 よび後退位置への戻り運動は任意の適当な装置によって制御されるということは罹患できよう。例えばベルトやケーブルを用いた機械的伝動装置または複数のモータを電気的に同期させる装置を用いてシャフト3Dの戻り運動を制御する。以下の図ではこの装置またはそれに相当するものを単に矢印で概念的に示し、参照番号2で表す。これは一般にコード4に順次作用するフォーク部材およびハンマーの2つの動作部材全体を表すということは理解できよう。

【0031】図3は往復動アームシステム31bを有する 第1実施例の変形例を示し、この往復動アームシステム 316は第1アーム (ベースアーム) 3116に対する第2 アーム3216の運動を制御する手段が前記往復動アーム と基本的に異なっている。第1実施例のこの変形例のア ームシステム 3 1 b もカスケード状に配置された 3 本の機 能的なアーム3116、3216、3316を有し、これらの アームは上記制御手段によって一方のビードから他方の ビードまで運転し、押圧装置と一緒に機能する。第1ア ーム(ベースアーム)3116は回転中心31R16を介し て往復動シャフト3D10に取付けられている。第1アー ム311bは上記の回転中心31R1bとは反対側の端部に 移送ヘッド31T1bを有している。第2アームの回転中 心32 R1bに関節接続された第2アーム321bは第1ア ーム311bの移送ヘッド31T1bに取付けられている。 この第2アーム321bは移送ヘッド32T1bを有してい る。本発明装置では、回転中心33R1bを介して第2ア ーム3210の移送ヘッド32T10に関節接続された第3 のアーム3316がある。この第3アーム3316は移送へ ッド33T№を有し、案内管6はこの移送ヘッドに直接 取付けられている。

【0032】駆動プーリ31110は第1アームの回転中心31R10と同心で、前記のプレート(図3には図示せず)に固定されたフランジ3710と一体になっている。従動プーリ31210は第2アーム3210と一体である(相対回転が全く無い)。これらの駆動プーリと従助プーリとの間は歯付きベルト36110で接続されている。駆動プーリおよび従動プーリの直径は同一であり、第2アーム3210はその運動中これらプーリと常に平行である。各アームの位置を正確に決めるためには歯付きプーリを使用しなければならないということは当業者には理解できよう。ベルトも対応するプーリに対して相対スイドせずに運動できる歯付ベルトにする。すなわち、位置を制御すべき各アームを例えばチェーンやピニオンをの滑りの無い任意の装置を用いて接続するということは理解できよう。本明細書では「プーリ」および「ベル

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【0033】この実施例ではフランジ371bは空間的に静止しているが、一般的には第1アームの往復動運動の制御とは独立してこのフランジの角度位置を制御することが重要である。例えば上記プレートとフランジ371bとの間の運動に自由度を与えてプレートに対するフランジ371bの相対位置を制御し、それによって駆動プーリ311bの空間位置を選択的に制御し、寸法の異なる型に合せて案内管6を運動させることができる。

ト」という用語は相対位置を滑り無しに制御することが

できる全てのシステムを意味する。

【0034】第3アーム33^{1b}の第2アーム32^{1b}に対する相対位置を制御する手段は第2アーム32^{1b}の回転中心32R^{1b}と同心で、第1アーム31^{1b}と一体な(相対回転不可)駆動プーリ321^{1b}と、第3アーム33^{1b}と一体な(相対回転不可)従動プーリ322^{1b}とからなる。これらの駆動プーリと従動プーリとの間には歯付きベルト362^{1b}がかけられている。駆動プーリと従動プーリの直径は互いに異なり、運動中に第2アーム32^{1b}が芯型1のサイドウォール11に衝突しないで、移送端部33T^{1b}が芯型1のビード近傍の領域(図4参照)に接近できるように各直径の値を計算する。

【0035】図4は往復動アーム31^{1b}、32^{1b}、33 ^{1b}の前後運動の一端部で本発明装置が占める各位置6

(a) における案内管 6 の状態を示している。第2アー

ムおよび第3アームが占める対応する配置は32 lb(a)および33lb(b)でそれぞれ示してある。位置および配置の違いは参照文字(b)、(c)、(d)で表してある。

【0036】変形例では駆動プーリ321^{1b}を第1アーム31^{1b}に対して自由に設置し、駆動プーリ321^{1b}と一体な一つのプーリと幾何学軸線3D^{1b}と同心な他のプーリ(図示せず)とに巻き付けたベルトで駆動することによって第1アームの運動およびプーリ311^{1b}の運動の両方から独立して駆動することもできる。これによって50 第2アームに対する第3アームの相対運動の制御の自由

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度が大きくなる。

【0037】図5は図1の往復動アームシステム31aに取付けられる、それと均等な制御手段を表している。この図には第2アーム321aの中間回転中心32 I^{1a} と同心で中間アーム3 4^{1a} と一体な(相対回転不可)第3プーリ32 1^{1a} と、第3アーム3 3^{1a} と一体な(相対回転不可)第4プーリ32 2^{1a} とが示してある。これらの駆動プーリと従動プーリとには歯付きベルト3 6^{21a} が掛けられている。駆動プーリと従動プーリの直径は互いに異なり、プーリの運動中に第2アーム3 2^{1a} が芯型1のサイドウォール11と衝突しないで、移送端部33 T^{1a} が芯型1のビード近傍領域(図4参照)に達するように直径の値を計算する。第2アームに対する第3アームの相対運動を制御する他の方法に関する上記の説明はこの変形例にも適用できる。

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【0038】図5に示した他の詳細についても注意され たい。この図ではアームシステム318がほぼ図1で示さ れるように配置されている。この配置では第2アーム3 21 が第1アーム31 はおよび中間アーム34 の片側 (軸線MMおよびシャフト3D1aの幾何学軸線によって 規定される中心面の片側)に設置され、案内管6はこの 中心面の一方の側に位置する芯型1の半分の上を運動す る間にそれと同じ側にとどまっている。第2アーム32 18は芯型の一方の側から他方の側へ移動する際に中心面 の反対側へ行き、この通過時に第1アーム3118および 中間アーム3418も反対側へ行く。この同じ運動中、中 間アーム341°は第1アーム311°の上を通過する。従 って、アームを正確に重ねてこの運動を可能にすること が重要である。そのためにスペーサスリーブ38118お よび38218が設けられている。このことは一般的なこ とであり、往復動アームを互いに関節接続し、中心面に 対して対称運動させる場合には各アームが互いに重なっ て所望の交差ができるようにしなければならない。

【0039】図6、図7は第1実施例のさらに他の変形例を示している。この変形例も第3アーム331°の運動の制御の方法が異なる。この第1実施例の変形例でもアームシステム31°がカスケード状に配置された3本の機能的なアーム311°、321°、331°を有し、上記の制御手段によって本発明装置は一方のビードから他方のビードまで運動する。

【0040】図6、図7に示す第1アーム(ベースアーム)311 と第2アーム321 との相対運動はアームシステム31 または31 で説明したものと同じであるので説明は省略する。第1アーム31 は移送ヘッド31T1 を有し、第2アームの回転中心32R1 に関節接続された第2アーム321 は第1アーム311 の移送ヘッド31T1に取付けられている。この第2アーム321 は移送ヘッド32T1 を有している。この実施例では回転中心33R13を介して第2アーム321 の移送ヘッド32T1 に関節接続された第3アーム331 を有してい

る。この第3アーム331°は移送ヘッド33T1°を有 し、案内管6はこの移送ヘッドに直接取付けられてい る。第1アーム3110の移送ヘッド33T10にはカム3 8116が機械加工されている。このカム38116は一定 の平均半径に機械加工された中立部分381N¹°と、芯 型の一方の側で第3アーム3310の相対運動を制御する 半径が増加する最終制御部分381A1cと、芯型の反対 側で第3アーム3310の相対運動を制御する半径が減少 する最終制御部分381Blcとを有している。第3アー ム331°の回転中心33R1°には歯車3221°が設置さ れている。この歯車32210は第3アーム3310と一体 である(相対回転不可)。接続ロッド38310は第2ア ーム321°と一体な案内3841°内をスライドする。す なわち、接続ロッド3831°は第2アーム321°に対し てスライドするように案内される。接続ロッド3831c は一方の側でカム38116と協働するカムフォロワー3 8210を支持する。接続ロッド38310はカムフォロワ -3821°の反対側に歯車3221°と係合するラック3 851°を有する。最終制御部分381A1°および381 B1cのカムのプロフィールを選択し、第3アーム331c の運動中に第2アーム321°が芯型1のサイドウォール に衝突しないで第3アーム331°の移送端部33T1°に 取付けた案内管6が芯型1のビード近傍領域(図7の位 置6a参照)に達するようにする。 【0041】図7は往復動アーム31¹⁶、32¹⁶、33

10の前後運動の一方の端部においてカム装置によって与えられる位置 6 (a') にある案内管 6 の状態を示している。第 2 アームおよび第 3 アームが占める対応する位置は3 2 10 (a') および3 3 10 (a') でそれぞれ示してある。他の位置および配置は参照文字(b')、(c')、(d')で表してある。図 4 と図 7 を比較すると、(a) および(a')で表された位置が同じ場合、図 7 で(b')、(c')、(d')で表示された位置は図 4 の位置(b)、(c)、(d)とは幾分異なっていることが分かる。サイドウォール1 1 の高さの所にカム制御手段によって維持、許容される比較的大きな遊びが

【0042】カム制御では相対運動が実質的にカムのプロフィールに依存するため第2アームと第3アームとの40 間の相対運動を要求に沿ってかなり自由に選択することができる。従って、図3および図5を参照して説明したベルト制御に特有な第1アームと第2アームとの間の相対回転運動に関する比例関係の制約が取り除かれる。特に、案内管6を芯型1から急速に開放するように第2アームに対して第3アームの相対位置を決めることが可能になる。すなわち、ビード領域(位置6a参照)で芯型1の表面の十分近くを運動しながら移送ヘッド33T¹にと芯型1(位置6b、6cおよび6d参照)との間に一定の十分な遊びを確保することができる。カム381¹で 部分381B¹。および他の方向を向く部分381D¹。が

見られる。

ほんの短距離でかなりの位置の変化(急速な位置の変 化)を与え(カム3811cに沿った曲線x方向移動)、 各ビードに接近する際に案内管6の運動の両端部でカム が第3アーム331°を第2端部の各片側で揺動させると いうことが理解できよう。

【0043】図8、図9に示した第2実施例では、往復 動アームシステム328が2つのカスケード状の機能的な 往復動アーム3128および3228を有している。この実 施例はビードからショルダーまでの運動、例えば片側カ ーカスの製造用に設計されている。すなわち、カーカス が一方のビードから他方のビードまで連続せずにトレッ ドのどこかで中断しており、両側カーカス間の力の伝達 をベルト補強材で行うラジアルタイヤが知られている。 この場合のカーカス補強材はビードとショルダーとの間 に配置しなければならない。上記の往復動アームシステ ム320は第3アームが無いことを除き前記の往復動アー ムシステム310で用いた平行四辺形の原理を用いてい る。プレート3028が制御モータ3528を支持し、制御 モータ352aはシャフト3D2aおよび34D2aを駆動 し、これらのシャフトの回転軸線は中心面M^{2a}-M^{2a}内 に含まれる。制御モータ352aは押圧装置2Gおよび2D も駆動する。これらの押圧装置は図2で詳細に説明した ものと同じ型のものである。中心面M²a-M²aに対する 押圧装置 26 および 20 の間隔はハンドル 2 32 および 2 42a で調整できる。

【0044】第1アーム(ベースアーム)312aはその 回転中心31 R^{2a}を介して往復動シャフト3D^{2a}に取付 けられている。基準点として芯型1の放射中心Cをとる と、回転中心31R²⁸は芯型1の表面より外側に位置し ている。第1アーム312aは移送ヘッド31T2aを有 し、第2アームの回転中心32R2aに関節接続された第 2アーム322aは第1アーム312aの移送ヘッド31T 20に取付けられている。この第2アーム3220は移送へ ッド32T^{2a}を有する。第1アーム31^{2a}に対する第2 アーム3220の相対位置を制御するために、この実施例 では回転中心34R^{2a}を介して往復動シャフト34D^{2a} の周りを往復動するように取付けられた補助アーム34 20を用いて平行四辺形が形成されている。 芯型 1 の放射 中心Cを基準点とした場合、回転中心31R2aは芯型1 の表面の外側で芯型1の表面と第1アーム3120の回転 中心31R28との間に位置する。補助アーム3428は第 2アーム322aに関節接続された移送ヘッド34T2aを 有し、第2アームは第2アーム322aの回転中心32R 2aと移送ヘッド32 T2aとの間に位置する中間の回転中 心32 12 を有する。案内管6は第2アーム322 の移 送ヘッド32T2aに直接支持されている。案内管6の運 動は軌道6328で示してある。2つの往復動アームを有 するこの装置はビードから反対側のショルダーを含むト レッドの下側の任意の点までの運動に用いることがで き、コードを各片側カーカスで部分的に重複した状態で 50 テムは例えばベルト補強材を製造するためのショルダー

配置することができる。

【0045】図9は図8のシステムで説明したものとは 第1アーム (ベースアーム) 31^{2b}に対する第2アーム 3 226の運動の制御手段が異なる往復動アームシステム 32bを有する変形例を示している。この変形例は歯付き プーリおよびベルトを有する制御手段の代わりに第1ア ームの回転中心31R2bに中心を置く駆動ピニオン31 12bを有する。

【0046】図9は回転中心31R2bを介して往復動シ ャフトに取付けられた第1アーム(ベースアーム)31 ^{2b}を示している。第1アーム31^{2b}は回転中心31R^{2b} の反対側に移送ヘッド31T2bを有し、第2アームの回 転中心32R26に関節接続された第2アーム3226は第 1アーム312bの移送ヘッド31T2bに取付けられてい る。この第2アーム322bは移送ヘッド32T2bを有 し、案内管6はこれに直接取付けられている。駆動ピニ オン3112bはプレート(図9には図示せず)に固定さ れたフランジ3726と一体化されている。従動ピニオン 3122bは第2アーム322bと一体化されている(相対 回転不可)。第1ピニオンと第2ピニオンとの間にはチ ェーン3612bが掛けられている。第1ピニオンと第2 ピニオンの直径は同一であり、第2アーム322bは運動 中各ピニオンと常に平行である。往復動アームシステム 326を図8の往復動アームシステム 328に代えることも できる。プレートとフランジ3716との間の自由度を制 御してプレートに対するフランジ3716の相対位置を制 御する可能性についての前記の説明はこのフランジ37 20および全ての類似のフランジに当てはまる。

【0047】案内管6は全ての変形例で「運動面」とよ 30 ばれる平面内を周期的に運動することを忘れてはならな い。また、芯型1の予備被覆された面が補強コード4が 配置される面の寸法が決定する。さらに、案内管6が案 内管の運動面内で前後運動をする間に、芯型1はその軸 線の周りを回転する。 もちろん、芯型1のこの運動は案 内管の前後運動と同期している。コード4のアーチ40 の真の軌跡は案内管の運動面と芯型の相対位置との関数 であり、芯型1と案内管6の前後運動との相対運動の関 数である。

【0048】図1、4、7および8はラジアルタイヤ用 のカーカス(またはカーカス部分)製造用のものである ため図1、4、7および8ではアーチ40の軌跡はほぼ 放射状であるが、もちろんこれに限定されるものではな い。他の例が図12に表した第3実施例に示してある。 図12ではアーチ4030の軌跡は放射状でなく、ベルト 補強材に対して一般に角度(約15°~30°)を成し

【0049】図12に示した第3実施例は単一の往復動 アーム (ベースアーム) 3138を有し、これは例えばタ イヤのベルト内の補強材の製造に適しており、このシス

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からショルダーまでの運動に適している。ベースアーム31³aはその回転中心31R³aを介して往復動シャフトに取付けられている。ベースアーム31³aは移送ヘッド31T³aを有し、案内管6はこれに直接取付けられている。案内管6が前後運動する運動面は、タイヤ分野で角度を測定するための一般的な慣例に従っていうと、芯型1の回転軸線に垂直な面に対して約20°の角度を成す。押圧装置26および20も同じ運動面内で運動する。図12に示す実施例ではコード4は往復動シャフト3D³aの中空中心部51³aを通っており、大きなコード補償システム52³aが上流側に設けられているが、この実施例に限定れれるものではない。

【0050】サイドウォールにクロスプライを有するカーカスを製造するため、コード取付け部材の支持体(プレート30等)を芯型1の回転軸に平行な軸線を中心として傾斜させて案内管の運動面を全くの放射方向から変えることもできる。の調整とベルト補強材の製造で説明した前記の調整法とを組み合わせることも可能である。前記の装置の部材の特徴を全く変えずにチェーンの速度と芯型の速度との関数のコード配置角度が得られるように芯型を大幅に高速(例えば往復動アームシステム3の前後運動に対して1/8の回転)で駆動することもできる(上記の全ての実施例では芯型1の速度は配置ピッチのみに関係するものである)。

【0051】以下、さらに別の変形例を説明するが、これらは本明細書に記載の全ての実施例の全ての変形例に適用することができる。芯型1上でのコード4の取付け軌跡を変えるために、コード取付け部材の支持体(プレート3013等、図1参照)に交互運動を与えることができる。例えば取付け部材の支持体を軸線方向交互運動(図1の2重矢印P参照)するように駆動して案内管の運動面が運動面に垂直な方向に軸線方向運動できるよう

(図1の2重矢印P参照)するように駆動して条件官の 運動面が運動面に垂直な方向に軸線方向運動できるよう にすることができる。取付け部材支持体を型の表面に垂 直な幾何学軸線を中心として往復動運動(運動面内に含まれ、ベースアームの幾何学回転軸線(図1の軸MーM の周りの2重矢印Q参照)と交差する運動)するように 駆動して、運動面を運動面に平行な軸線を中心とする往 復動運動させることも可能である。コード取付け部材の 支持体と平行な任意の軸線を中心として往復動運動する ようにコード取付け部材の支持体を駆動することも可能 である。この設計はプレート1030を軸線MMを中心と する一定角度の調整(これはある種の場合には可能で且 つ有用である)とは区別することが重要である。これら の特定の実施例は全てコード4の軌跡の形そのものにさ らに大きな自由度を与える。

【0052】本発明の利点は従来公知の基本的方法を実施する装置の機構を単純化し、軽くすることができることと、簡単な調整だけで製造すべき広範囲のタイヤをカバーする全てのタイヤ補強材の変形例に適合することが

できることにある。本発明の往復動アームシステムは片持ち部分がなく、慣性部分がほとんど無く、運転速度を上げるに適している。複数(n)のパス(各パスが芯型全体を被う)でカーカス補強材を製造することもできる。ピッチPで放射状アーチを一つのパスで配置する場合、n回の一連のパスで配置されるアーチ40の芯型1上の位置はP/nに対応する位相で円周方向にシフトする。当業者はタイヤの所望構造に応じて本発明を種々の方法で用いることができるであろう。

【0053】片側カーカスを製造する場合には(図8、図9参照)、芯型の各々の片側に本発明装置を設けることによって芯型の両側で同時に各片側カーカスを製造することができる。各片側カーカス片を順次製造することも可能である。本発明の一つの利点はアーチの軌跡が90°とは非常に異なる角度(例えば約20°)を成すものもを含めて複数の使用で型の輪郭を倣うことができることにある。この場合も、型に衝突しないで、タイヤビードの対応する各領域にある型の一連の2点に達することが可能である。

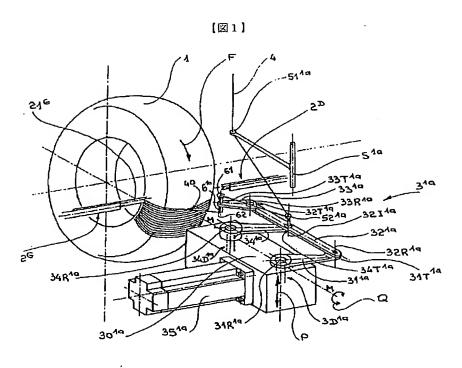
20 【図面の簡単な説明】

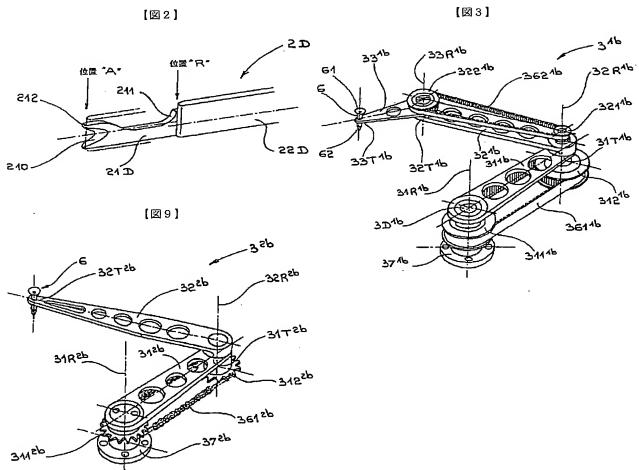
【図1】 本発明装置の第1実施例を示す概念的斜視図。

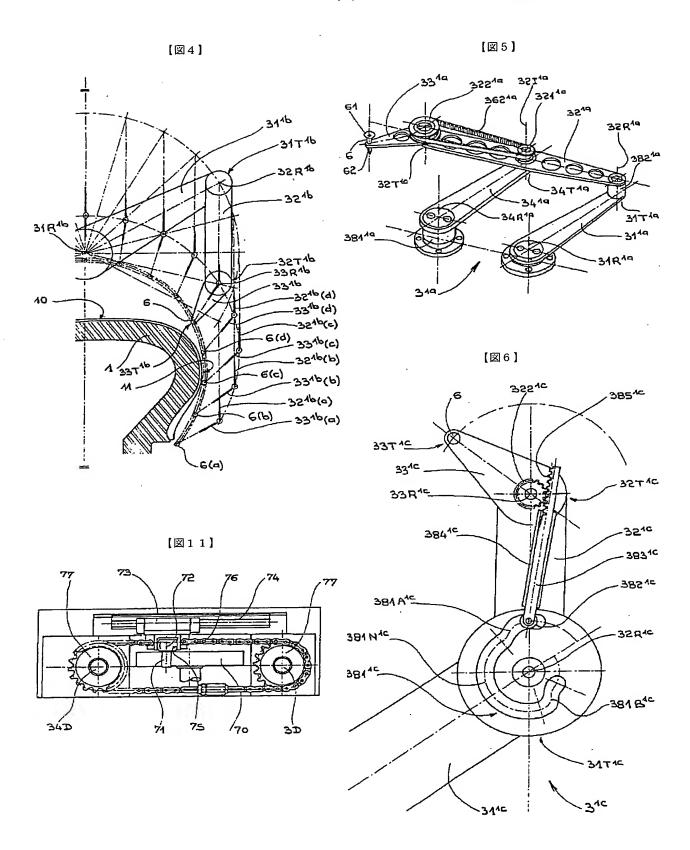
- 【図2】 上記装置の押圧装置の詳細図。
- 【図3】 第1実施例の第1変形例を示す図。
- 【図4】 第1実施例の装置の各操作段階の詳細図。
- 【図5】 図1に示されていない第1実施例の詳細図。
- 【図6】 第1実施例の第2変形例を示す図。
- 【図7】 第1実施例の第2変形例の一連の操作段階を 示す図。
- 30 【図8】 本発明装置の第2実施例を示す放射方向断面 図。
 - 【図9】 第2実施例の変形例を示す図。
 - 【図10】 図1に示した第1実施例で用いられる制御機構の平面図(軸線MMおよびシャフト3Dの幾何学軸線による図1で規定の面での断面、「中心面」ともよばれる)
 - 【図11】 図10のA-A線に沿った断面図。
 - 【図12】 本発明装置の第3実施例を示す概念的斜視図。

40 【符号の説明】

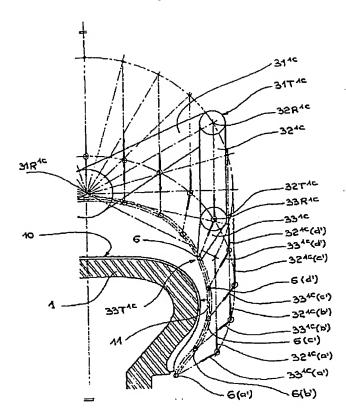
- 1 芯型
- 2 押圧装置
- 4 コード
- 6 案内部材
- 31 ベースアーム
- 31T 移送ヘッド
- 31R 回転中心
- 311 駆動プーリ
- 3 1 2 従動プーリ



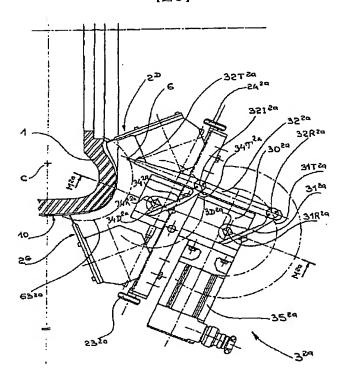




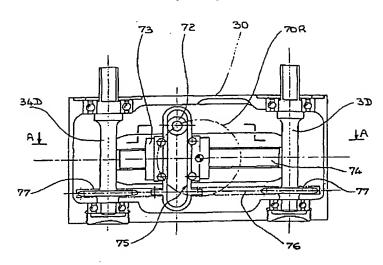
【図7】



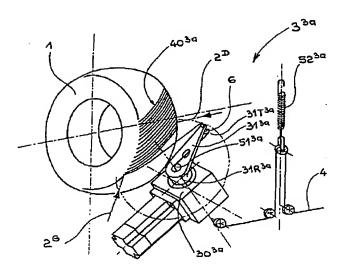
【図8】







【図12】



【外国語明細書】

1. Title of Invention

OSCILLATING ARM APPARATUS, FOR MANUFACTURING A REINFORCEMENT FROM A SINGLE CORD.

2. Claims

- 1. An apparatus for manufacturing a tyre reinforcement, said apparatus being intended for manufacturing a reinforcement constituted from a cord (4) supplied continuously and on demand by a suitable distributor, said apparatus being intended for use in cooperation with a substantially toroidal form on which said reinforcement is built up progressively by laying down arches of said cord, according to a desired trajectory for said cord, on the surface of said form, said apparatus comprising:
- a guide member (6) in which the cord may slide freely,
- means of displacing said guide member in a cyclical, to-and-fro, movement, to bring said
 guide member in successive cycles into the vicinity of each of the desired ends for the cord in
 said trajectory,
- pressers (2) close to each end of said trajectory, for applying the cord (4) onto the form at said ends,

characterised in that:

- the displacement means comprises at least one base arm (31), said base arm comprising a centre of rotation (31R) and a conveying head (31T), and control means for imparting to said base arm an oscillatory movement about said centre of rotation, the apparatus being arranged so that the conveying head (31T) of said base arm directly or indirectly conveys the guide member from one end to the other of said trajectory,
- the geometric axis of said centre of rotation is, in the working position, entirely exterior to the
- 2. An apparatus according to claim 1, in which the conveying head (31T) of the case and (31) directly supports said guide member (6).
- 3. An apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a second arm (32), articulated by a centre of rotation (32R) of the second arm, said centre of rotation of the second arm being mounted on said conveying head (31T) of said base arm, said second arm having a conveying head (32T) for directly or indirectly conveying the guide member from one end to the other of said trajectory, and comprising control means for controlling the relative position of the second arm relative to said base arm.

- 4. An apparatus for manufacturing a tyre reinforcement, said apparatus being intended for manufacturing a reinforcement constituted from a cord supplied continuously and on demand by a suitable distributor, said apparatus being intended for use in cooperation with a substantially toroidal form on which said reinforcement is built up progressively by depositing arches of said cord according to a desired trajectory for said cord on the surface of said form, said apparatus comprising:
- · a guide member in which the cord may slide freely,
- means of displacing said guide member in a cyclical, to-and-fro, movement, to bring said
 guide member in successive cycles into the vicinity of each of the desired ends for the cord in
 said trajectory,
- pressers close to each end of said trajectory, for applying the cord onto the form at said ends, characterised in that the displacement means comprise at least two arms, i.e. an oscillating base arm and at least one other oscillating arm, said at least two arms each comprising a centre of rotation and a conveying head, said at least two arms each oscillating about a geometric axis of rotation, said geometric axis of rotation being parallel to each other, and control means for imparting to said arms oscillatory movements about the respective geometric axes of rotation thereof, the apparatus being arranged so that the conveying head of said base arm conveys the centre of rotation of a second oscillating arm and so that the conveying head directly or indirectly conveys the guide member from one end to the other of said trajectory, the apparatus comprising control means for controlling the relative position of the second arm relative to said base arm.
- 5. An apparatus according to claim 3 or claim 4, in which said control means for controlling the relative position of the second arm (32) relative to the base arm (31) essentially comprise a drive pulley (311) centred on the centre of rotation of said base arm, the angular position of said drive pulley being controlled independently of the oscillation control of said base arm, and comprise a driven pulley (312) firmly connected with said second arm, a toothed belt (361) connecting said pulleys.
- 6. An apparatus according to claim 5, in which said drive pulley (311) is stationary in space.
- 7. An apparatus according to claim 1, comprising a second oscillating arm (32), the centre of rotation (32R) of the second arm being mounted at the conveying end (31T) of said base arm, said second arm having a conveying head (32T) for directly or indirectly conveying the guide member from one end to the other of said trajectory, and comprising an auxiliary arm (34) oscillating about a centre of rotation (34R), the geometric axis of rotation of said centre of rotation of the auxiliary arm being situated entirely exterior to the surface of the form, between the latter and the geometric axis of rotation of said base arm, said auxiliary arm having a conveying head (34T), said second arm having an intermediate centre of rotation (32R) of the

second arm and the conveying head (32T) of said second arm, said intermediate centre of rotation being articulated on the conveying head (34T) of said auxiliary arm.

- 8. An apparatus according to claim 3, 4 or 7, in which the conveying head (32T) of the second arm directly supports said guide member (6).
- 9. An apparatus according to one of claims 3 to 7, comprising a third oscillating arm (33), articulated by its centre of rotation (33R) to the conveying head (32T) of the second arm, said third arm having a conveying head (33T) for conveying the guide member directly or indirectly from one end to the other of said trajectory, and comprising control means for controlling the relative position of the third arm relative to the second arm.
- 10. An apparatus according to claim 9, in which the conveying head (33T) of the third arm directly supports said guide member (6).
- 11. An apparatus according to claims 9 and 5 or 10 and 5, in which said control means for controlling the relative position of the third arm relative to the second arm essentially comprise a drive pulley (32I) centred on the centre of rotation (32R) of said second arm, said drive pulley being firmly connected with the base arm (31), and comprise a driven pulley (322) firmly connected with said third arm (33) at the centre of rotation thereof, a toothed belt (362) connecting said drive and driven pulleys.
- 12. An apparatus according to claims 9 and 7 or 10 and 7, in which said control means for controlling the relative position of the third arm relative to the second arm essentially comprise a drive pulley (321) centred on the intermediate centre of rotation (321) of said second arm, said drive pulley being firmly connected with the intermediate arm (34), and comprise a driven pulley (322) firmly connected with said third arm (33) at the centre of rotation thereof, a toothed belt (362) connecting said drive and driven pulleys.
- 13. An apparatus according to claim 9 or 10, in which said control means for controlling the relative position of the third arm relative to the second arm essentially comprise a cam arranged in the conveying head of the base arm, a toothed wheel firmly connected with the third arm, a connecting rod guided in sliding manner with regard to the second arm, carrying on one side a cam follower cooperating with said cam and on the other a rack engaged on said toothed wheel.
- 14. An apparatus according to one of claims 1 to 13, comprising a support for the means of displacing said guide member and comprising means of imparting to said support an alternating movement allowing deflection of the trajectory of the cord (4) on the core (1).

3. Detailed Description of Invention

The present invention relates to the manufacture of tyres. More precisely, it relates to the depositing of cords to constitute a tyre reinforcement. More particularly, it proposes means suitable for manufacturing such a reinforcement on a form similar or identical to the form of the internal cavity of the tyre, that is to say a substantially toroidal form, supporting the tyre blank during manufacture thereof.

In this technical field, processes and apparatus are already known which permit incorporation of the manufacture of the tyre reinforcements into assembly of the tyre itself. This means that, rather than having recourse to semi-finished products, such as reinforcement plies, one or more reinforcements are produced in situ, at the time of manufacture of the tyre, from a cord spool. Of these processes and apparatus, the solution described in patent application EP 0 580 055 is most particularly adapted to the production of carcass reinforcements on a rigid core, the outer surface of which corresponds substantially to the form of the internal cavity of the finished tyre. This patent application discloses equipment in which the cord, intended to constitute a carcass reinforcement, is laid down in contiguous arches on a rigid core, via an eyelet fixed on a chain mounted on pulleys in such a way as to surround the core by forming a type of fork. The eyelet performs a to-and-fro movement around the core in such a way as progressively and contiguously to lay down an arch with each outward movement and an arch with each return movement, suitable pressers being used to apply the ends of said arches as they are formed on the rigid core pre-coated with uncured rubber.

The object of the present invention is to provide equipment variants for depositing a reinforcing cord on a core in substantially the same manner.

The invention proposes an apparatus for manufacturing a tyre reinforcement, said apparatus being intended for manufacturing a reinforcement constituted from a cord supplied continuously and on demand by a suitable distributor, said apparatus being intended for use in cooperation with a substantially toroidal form on which said reinforcement is built up progressively by laying down arches of said cord, according to a desired trajectory for said cord, on the surface of said form, said apparatus comprising:

- a guide member in which the cord may slide freely,
- means of displacing said guide member in a cyclical, to-and-fro, movement, to bring said
 guide member in successive cycles into the vicinity of each of the desired ends for the cord in
 said trajectory,
- pressers close to each end of said trajectory, for applying the cord onto the form at said ends,
 characterised in that:

- the displacement means comprises at least one base arm, said base arm comprising a centre of
 rotation and a conveying head, and control means for imparting to said base arm an oscillatory
 movement about said centre of rotation, the apparatus being arranged so that the conveying
 head of said base arm directly or indirectly conveys the guide member from one end to the
 other of said trajectory,
- the geometric axis of said centre of rotation is, in the working position, entirely exterior to the form.

The reader is invited to refer to the above-cited patent application EP 0 580 055, since the present invention includes not only the process described therein but also to a considerable extent the pressers used to allow formation of a loop and to apply said loop against the core. By way of a reminder, the pressers essentially each comprise a fork and a hammer. Apart from a few details, the presser embodiment described therein could be used as it is, even if a novel form is proposed below for said pressers.

The main differences provided by the invention lie in the cord depositing members and more precisely the actuation of said guide member in which the cord may slide freely (i.e. the eyelet). In other words, the oscillating arm system or systems described below are designed to be able to replace the chain system described in the above-cited patent.

Before embarking on a detailed description of these novel means of actuating the cord guide member, it would be helpful to remember certain useful points.

First of all, it should be noted that, as in the above-cited patent, the term "cord" must of course be understood in a completely general sense, covering a monofilament, a multifilament, an assembly such as for example a cable or a plied yarn, or a small number of grouped cables or plied yarns, whatever the nature of the material and whether or not the "cord" is pre-coated with rubber. In the present specification, the term "arch" is used to designate a portion of cord extending from a singular point to another in the reinforcement armature. All these arches disposed over the entire periphery of the tyre form the reinforcement proper. An arch as defined here may be part of a carcass or of a crown reinforcement or of any other type of reinforcement. These arches may be separated by cutting the cord during laying thereof, or they may all be connected together in the finished reinforcement, for example by loops.

Basically, the invention relates to continuous layion of a reinforcing cord, in a configuration as close as possible to the configuration in the finished product. Since the cord is supplied on demand by a suitable distributor comprising for example a cord spool and, if applicable, a device for controlling the tension of the cord withdrawn from the spool, the apparatus for manufacturing a reinforcement from a cord cooperates with a form (rigid core or reinforced membrane) on which

the tyre is manufactured. It is of little significance whether the reinforcement, to be complete, is fabricated in several successive passes of the depositing members described with or without cutting of the cord between two passes.

When positions or directions are defined by the words "radially, axially, circumferentially" or when radii are mentioned, the reference point is taken to be the core on which the tyre is manufactured, or the tyre itself, which comes to the same thing. The geometric axis of reference is the axis of rotation of the form.

Likewise, as has already been pointed out in the above-cited patent, the cord depositing members described here also allow the production of a reinforcement, for example a carcass reinforcement, in which the laying pitch of the cord is variable. "Laying pitch" is understood to mean the distance resulting from the sum of the space between two adjacent cords and the diameter of the cord. It is well known that, for a carcass reinforcement, the space between cords varies according to the radius at which it is measured. This is not the variation referred to here, which is a variable pitch at a given radius. For this, it is sufficient to vary the speed of rotation of the form as a function of any suitable law without changing the working speed of the guide member. A tyre is thus obtained, the carcass reinforcing cords of which, for example for a radial carcass, are disposed at a pitch exhibiting controlled variation for a given radial position.

Various embodiments of the invention may be envisaged. Three main embodiments will be described below. The first embodiment uses a series of three functional oscillating arms. In addition, possible variants are described for this first embodiment. A series of three functional oscillating arms is preferably used for depositing carcass arches extending from one bead to the other of the tyre. The second embodiment uses a series of two functional oscillating arms. Furthermore, a variant embodiment is given for this second embodiment. A series of two functional oscillating arms is used for example for depositing carcass arches extending from a bead to a shoulder of the tyre. The third embodiment uses a single functional oscillating arm, which is sufficient for the simplest laying down to be performed.

When "n" functional oscillating arms are used which are arranged in series (n > 1), the term "nth arm" is used to designate the functional oscillating arm to which the cord guide member is directly fixed, the base arm always being the "first oscillating arm". The oscillating arms are arranged in series in such a way that, in general, the conveying head of the oscillating arm "p" (p being < n) conveys the centre of rotation of the oscillating arm "p + 1". This is why it is stated above that the conveying head conveys the cord guide member directly, or only "indirectly" (that is to say through the intermediary of one or more other functional oscillating arms). In all the examples described, the geometric axis of the centre of rotation of the first oscillating arm is, in the working position, entirely exterior to the form, with which it never comes into contact, that is to say not

even via its extensions.

The apparatus causes the cord guide member to describe a movement which is substantially included in a plane - the plane of movement - perpendicular to the geometric axis of rotation of the base arm. In another aspect of the apparatus according to the invention, the base arm, or according to the variants, each of the oscillating arms used, is of planar, long-limbed appearance, and the base arm oscillates in this plane of movement, or all the oscillating arms move in parallel, neighbouring planes, one of them being very close to this plane of movement, or even merged with this plane of movement, depending on the type of guide member used.

It should also be pointed out that, in another aspect, and without taking account of the respective position of the series of oscillating arms with respect to the form, the invention proposes an apparatus for manufacturing a tyre reinforcement comprising a series of arms articulated with one another, the articulations being perpendicular to the plane of movement. Said apparatus, intended for manufacturing a reinforcement constituted from a cord supplied continuously and on demand by a suitable distributor and intended for use in cooperation with a substantially toroidal form on which said reinforcement is built up progressively by depositing arches of said cord according to a desired trajectory for said cord on the surface of said form, comprises:

- a guide member in which the cord may slide freely,
- means of displacing said guide member in a cyclical, to-and-fro, movement, to bring said
 guide member in successive cycles into the vicinity of each of the desired ends for the cord in
 said trajectory,
- pressers close to each end of said trajectory, for applying the cord onto the form at said ends, characterised in that the displacement means comprise at least two arms, i.e. an oscillating base arm and at least one other oscillating arm, said at least two arms each comprising a centre of rotation and a conveying head, said at least two arms each oscillating about a geometric axis of rotation, said geometric axis of rotation being parallel to each other, and control means for imparting to said arms oscillatory movements about the respective geometric axes of rotation thereof, the apparatus being arranged so that the conveying head of said base arm conveys the centre of rotation of a second oscillating arm and so that the conveying head of the second oscillating arm directly or indirectly conveys the guide member from one end to the other of said trajectory.

The rest of the description allows a full understanding of all the aspects of the invention, on the basis of the Figures.

Figure 1 (as moreover for all the examples described, without this being limiting however) shows that the form is a core I (rigid and dismantlable) defining the geometry of the inner surface of the

tyre. This is coated with rubber 10 (see Figure 7), for example a butyl rubber-based scaling rubber layer and a rubber layer ensuring coating of the carcass cords. The rubber 10 covering the core 1 allows a cord 4 to be held on the core 1 as it is deposited thereon, by an adhesive effect. Of course, the core 1 is driven rotationally by any suitable device, not shown.

The depositing members proper essentially comprise a system of oscillating arms 3^{1a} on the one hand and presser devices 2^G and 2^D on the other. With regard to the reference numerals in the Figures, the convention used is to designate similar members with the same main reference numerals, for example "3" for the system of oscillating arms, and to indicate specific association with an embodiment or a variant by an exponent, for example "^{1an} for the first embodiment (using a series of three oscillating arms), in its variant "a". A reference numeral without any specific marker relates to a member which is always the same in the different variants or should be understood as designating without distinction all the variants of all the embodiments.

In the first embodiment shown in Figure 1, the system of oscillating arms 3^{1a} comprises three functional oscillating arms 31^{1a}, 32^{1a}, 33^{1a} arranged in series and an auxiliary arm 34^{1a}. This arrangement with three functional oscillating arms allows easy displacement of the guide member from one bead to the other and thus the obtainment, in conjunction with the presser devices 2^G and 2^D, of operation of the apparatus from one bead to the other. An eyelet 6 constitutes in all the examples described here the materialisation of the guide member for the cord 4 (without being limiting). The eyelet is always mounted on the last oscillating arm. Before going into detail, it should simply be pointed out that the system of oscillating arms 3 fulfils the function fulfilled by the chain system in above-cited patent application EP 0 580 055, and the presser devices 2^G and 2^D are positioned in a suitable manner to play the role described in the above-cited patent application EP 0 580 055.

The system of oscillating arms 3^{1a} is mounted on a plate 30^{1a} and causes the eyelet 6^{1a} to describe a movement flying over the core 1, and even passing round it in many embodiments. In all scenarios, the system of oscillating arms 3 causes the eyelet 6 to perform a movement in a plane. The eyelet 6 is flared: it forms a funnel with a large opening 61 on the side on which the cord 4 arrives and a smaller orifice 62 on the side on which the cord 4 exits (see also Figure 3). It is the small orifice 62 which describes a movement in said plane of movement of the guide member. It is a good idea to take care over production of the edges of the orifice 62, so as not to damage the cord 4, since the outlet portion thereof is generally arranged substantially in the plane of movement, that is to say in a plane which is perpendicular to the guide direction imposed by the eyelet 6. As a variant, it is possible to orient the eyelet in such a way as to resemble the average orientation of the cord when leaving the eyelet.

The plate 30^{1a} comprises an oscillating shaft 3D^{1a} (see also 3D in Figures 10 and 11) motorising the system of oscillating arms, the geometric axis of said oscillating shaft 3D^{1a} being situated radially outside the core 1. In other words, the geometric axis of said oscillating shaft 3D^{1a} is situated beyond the surface of the core 1, without the extension thereof coming into contact with the core 1. Said oscillating shaft 3D^{1a} does not effect continuous rotation, but rather oscillates within the limits of an arc smaller than 360°, the precise value depending on the exact constitution of the system of oscillating arms 3 and the intended use.

The entire oscillating arm system 3 itself is quite compact. All the depositing members, i.e. the oscillating arm system 3 and the presser devices 2, including the motor and the drive mechanism, form a sub-assembly capable of being easily presented to the core in a suitable manner, and capable of being retracted so that, for example, other devices may be presented to the core which are used for manufacture of a tyre or for removal of the core to other tyre building stations.

A base arm (or first arm) 31^{1a} (Figure 1) is mounted on the oscillating shaft 3D^{1a} via a centre of rotation 31R^{1a}. The first arm 31^{1a} comprises a conveying head 31T^{1a} at the opposite end from the centre of rotation 31R^{1a}. A second arm 32^{1a}, articulated by a centre of rotation 32R^{1a} of the second arm, is mounted on the conveying head 31T^{1a} of the first arm 31^{1a}. This second arm 32^{1a} comprises a conveying head 32T^{1a}. So as to control the relative position of the second arm 32^{1a} relative to the first arm 31^{1a}, in this example a parallelogram is formed by means of an auxiliary arm 34^{1a}, mounted oscillatingly about an oscillating shaft 34D^{1a} via the centre of rotation 34R^{1a} thereof. The centre of rotation 34R^{1a} is situated radially outside the surface of the core 1, and radially between the latter and the centre of rotation 31R^{1a} of the first arm 31^{1a}. The auxiliary arm 34^{1a} comprises a conveying head 34T^{1a}, articulated to the second arm 32^{1a} which comprises to this end an intermediate centre of rotation 32I^{1a} situated between the centre of rotation 32R^{1a} and the conveying head 32T^{1a} of said second arm 32^{1a}.

It should be noted that it is not necessary for the singular points constituting the centres of rotation $31R^{1a}$, $34R^{1a}$ and the conveying heads $31T^{1a}$, $34T^{1a}$ to form a parallelogram. These points are preferably precisely aligned as they pass through the median position in the median plane, defined by the axis MM joining the centres of rotation $31R^{1a}$, $34R^{1a}$ and by the geometric axis of the shaft 3D (as well as by the geometric axis of the shaft $34D^{1a}$ which is naturally parallel with the former). In this way, the eyelet 6 describes a movement, the course of which is symmetrical with regard to this median plane, and it reaches the vicinity of each of the bead zones defined on the core 1 in a perfectly symmetrical movement, even in the control thereof. This does not of course exclude the ends of the eyelet movement from not being at symmetrical points relative to the median plane, for example for manufacturing a tyre, the trajectory of the arches of which is not symmetrical. This would be the case in the manufacture of a tyre whose diameters at the seat (usual term for

designating the mounting seat) of each of the beads are different.

Finally, the apparatus comprises a third arm 33^{1a}, articulated via its centre of rotation 33R^{1a} to the conveying head 32T^{1a} of the second arm 32^{1a}. This third arm 33^{1a} comprises a conveying head 33T^{1a}, on which the eyelet 6 is directly mounted. Below, with the aid of Figure 5, the control means will be described for the relative position of the third arm 33^{1a} with regard to the second arm 32^{1a}, not shown in Figure 1 so as not to overload the drawing. It should simply be noted, at this stage, that the use of such a third oscillating arm, mobile relative to the second oscillating arm, assists in advancing towards the beads the conveying end directly supporting the eyelet 6, that is to say assists in passing round the wall of the core 1 with regard to the centre of rotation of the first arm, to arrive at zones hidden by said wall, undercut relative to the radial viewing direction.

Finally, it should be pointed out that the relative orientation of the third arm 33^{1a} relative to the second arm 32^{1a} allows good visualisation of the degree of functional freedom between said arms.

A motor 35^{1a} controls movement of all the arms 31^{1a}, 32^{1a}, 33^{1a}, 34^{1a}, preferably by motorisation of the two shafts 3D^{1a} and 34D^{1a}, as explained in detail by means of Figures 10 and 11. The motor 35^{1a} drives a disk 70 rotationally. A shaft 71 is mounted in the disk 70, in a predetermined eccentric position. The shaft 71 supports a roller 72. A carriage 73 moves translationally on slides 74 formed on the casing of the plate 30^{1a}. The carriage 73 comprises a rectilinear slot 75, oriented perpendicularly to the direction of translation of the carriage 73 on the slides 74. A chain (with tension device) 76 is mounted on two identical pinions 77, and connected by its ends to the carriage 73. One of the identical pinions 77 is fixed to the shaft 3D and the other to the shaft 34D.

Assuming that the motor 35 imparts a rotational movement at constant speed to the control shaft 350, the roller 72 performs a circular movement 70R at constant speed. This being so, the roller 72 ascends and descends in the slot 75 and moves the carriage 73 translationally, thus converting a constant speed rotational movement into an alternating, linear to-and-fro movement, the speed of which varies sinusoidally. Through the intermediary of the chain 76 and the identical pinions 77, this alternating linear movement is converted at the shafts 3D and 34D into oscillations sweeping through an arc smaller than 360°. The amplitude of the oscillation may be adjusted by adjusting the radius at which the shaft 71 (thus the roller 72) is mounted eccentrically on the disk 70. It is of course possible to superimpose on the law of movement conversion thus created mechanically any control law specific to the rotation of the rotor of the motor 35.

Let us return to the explanation of Figure 1. A cord 4 is supplied via a spool (not shown) and is then wound onto a feed device 5^{1a} allowing the cord 4 to be fed and presented correctly to the depositing members. The feed device 5^{1a} preferably comprises means ensuring control of the tension of the cord 4 and, if applicable, the necessary compensation between the depositing

members 3^{1a} and the spool, owing to the fact that the cord is adjusted by said depositing members to a cyclically variable speed, which may even be negative. The cord 4 is threaded into a first ring 51^{1a} disposed at some distance from the plane of movement, in which the eyelet 6 performs its cyclical movement. The ring 51^{1a} is disposed in a median manner with respect to the core 1. The cord 4 is then threaded into a ring 52 fixed to the second arm 32^{1a}.

This cord 4 is threaded onto an eyelet 6. The eyelet 6 describes a to-and-fro movement from one bead to the other, or more precisely from a location close to one bead to a location close to the other bead. The basic functioning cycle of the apparatus according to the invention comprises the following stages:

- with the cord being held against the form for a sufficient time, moving the eyelet (guide member) in an eyelet movement plane as far as a first end,
- applying the cord to the form at this first end and holding it there for at least a sufficient time, by means of a presser device,
- repeating the first stage in the opposite direction as far as a second end,
- applying the cord to the form at this second end and holding it there, by means of another presser device,

and thus repeating this basic cycle until the desired number of arches is deposited on the surface of the form, along the desired trajectory for the cord 4 on the surface of the form, by moving the form in synchronism with the movement of the guide member.

Figure 2 shows more particularly the presser 2^D which comprises a fork 21^D and a hammer 22^D, both of these being movable between a retracted position, at R (position remote from the core 1), and an advanced position, at A. Dash-dotted lines are used to show the hammer in the advanced position. With regard to the reference numerals in the Figures, the convention used is to designate each of the presser members with a main reference numeral, for example "21" for the fork, and to indicate specific association with the presser on one side (the left- or right-hand side in Figure 1), respectively by the letter "G" (left) or "D" (right) positioned as an exponent. A reference numeral without any specific marker relates in generic manner without distinction to one or other of the pressers or their members.

The reader is again invited to refer to the appropriate part of the description of the above-cited patent application EP 0 580 055, to remind him/herself of the respective functions of the fork and hammer 22, and to remind him/herself of the respective roles of the positions stated as advanced A and retracted R. Figure 2 shows that both the fork 21 and the hammer 22 have the appearance of parallel blades. With respect to the hammer, the fork 21 is always disposed radially on the side of the axis of rotation of the core 1. The fork 21 has a V-shaped head 210, allowing the cord 4 to be taken up and centred. During the gripping phase, the plane formed by the "V" is disposed

perpendicularly to the cord 4. When the cord 4 has to be arranged radially, as in Figure 1, the blade forming the fork 21 is oriented at a tangent to a circle concentric with the core 1. The fork 21 also comprises a recess 211, the role of which will become apparent below.

It is known that the fork 21 is intended to bring the cord 4 against the core 1. To this end, the advancing movement thereof towards the core 1 is initiated when the eyelet 6 has brought the cord 4 to one end of the to-and-fro movement, that is to say when the apparatus is substantially in the configuration in Figure 4. The fork 21 stops when it has anchored the cord in the rubber coating the core 1. Said fork 21 thus allows the cord 4 to be deposited with sufficient force for it to adhere correctly at the desired location. Returning to Figure 1, and taking into account the laying pitch desired, which is itself a function of the rotational movement of the core 1 shown schematically by the arrow F, continuation of the movement of the system of oscillating arms 3 causes the formation of a loop around the tip 212, which begins the laying down of a new arch 40 on the core 1 (see Figure 1). And passage of the cyclet 6 beyond the fork 21 during the return phase is permitted by the recess 211, although the fork 21 is positioned against the core 1 in this manufacturing stage. It should be pointed out that the size of the loop is a function of the dimensions of the tip 212.

The hammer 22 acts after the fork 21 and after the "return" phase of the eyelet 6. The hammer 22 presses on the cord 4 at a slightly higher radial position. Preferably it continues to hold the cord 4 while the fork 21 is retracted. The hold provided by the hammer during retraction of the fork assists in preventing the fork 21 from taking with it the loop of cord 4 which has formed about one of its tips 212 and which, even if it is stuck to the rubber, could have a tendency to remain attached to the fork. Anchoring of the cord 4 in the bead is thereby made perfectly reliable.

Of course, switching into the advanced position, and the return to the retracted position, are controlled, both for the fork 21 and the hammer 22, in synchronism with the system of oscillating arms 3^{1a}, by any suitable device (return movement of the shaft 3D by a suitable mechanical transmission, for example using belts or cables, or by electrical synchronisation between a plurality of motors). Hereinafter, such a device or its equivalent is simply shown schematically by an arrow and designated by reference numeral 2, it being understood that said numeral designates wholly generally a device with two acting elements, such as a fork and a hammer, acting in sequence on the cord 4.

Figure 3 shows a variant of the same first embodiment, comprising a system of oscillating arms 3^{1b}, differing from that described above essentially in the means of controlling the movement of the second arm 32^{1b} with regard to the base arm (or first arm) 31^{1b}. In this variant of the first embodiment, the system of arms 3^{1b} again comprises three functional arms 31^{1b}, 32^{1b}, 33^{1b} arranged in series, and, in conjunction with presser devices, said control means also allow

operation of the apparatus from one bead to the other. A base arm (or first arm) 31^{1b} is mounted on an oscillating shaft 3D^{1b} via a centre of rotation 31R^{1b}. The first arm 31^{1b} comprises a conveying head 31T^{1b} at the opposite end from the centre of rotation 31R^{1b}. A second arm 32^{1b}, articulated by a centre of rotation 32R^{1b} of the second arm, is mounted on the conveying head 31T^{1b} of the first arm 31^{1b}. This second arm 32^{1b} comprises a conveying head 32T^{1b}. Finally, the apparatus comprises a third arm 33^{1b}, articulated via its centre of rotation 33R^{1b} to the conveying head 32T^{1b} of the second arm 32^{1b}. This third arm 33^{1b} comprises a conveying head 33T^{1b}, on which the eyelet 6 is directly mounted.

A drive pulley 311^{1b} is shown centred on the centre of rotation 31R^{1b} of said first arm. The drive pulley 311^{1b} is firmly connected to a flange 37^{1b} mounted fixedly on said plate (not shown in Figure 3). A driven pulley 312^{1b} is firmly connected (that is to say without the possibility of any relative rotation) to the second arm 32^{1b}. A toothed belt 361^{1b} connects said drive and driven pulleys. The diameters of the drive pulley and the driven pulley are identical so that, during movement thereof, the second arm 32^{1b} always remains parallel to itself. The person skilled in the art will have understood that, since it is a question of positioning the arm or various arms precisely, the pulleys used are toothed pulleys. The belts, which are also toothed, operate without relative sliding with respect to the pulleys on which they are mounted. It is of course possible to use any equivalent slide-free system to connect the arms whose position has to be controlled, such as for example a chain and pinlons. In the present specification, the terms "pulley" and "belt" cover all equivalent systems for slide-free control of the relative positions.

In this example, the flange 37^{1b} is stationary in space but, more generally, it is important for the angular position thereof to be controlled independently of control of the oscillation of said first arm. It is possible, for example, to introduce a degree of freedom between the plate and the flange 37^{1b} and to control the relative position of said flange 37^{1b} relative to the plate, so as to act selectively on the spatial position of the drive pulley 311^{1b} in order, for example, to conform the movement performed by the eyelet 6 to different sized forms.

As far as the means of controlling the relative position of the third arm 33^{1b} relative to the second arm 32^{1b} are concerned, they essentially comprise a drive pulley 321^{1b} centred on the centre of rotation 32R^{1b} of said second arm 32^{1b}, firmly connected (no relative rotation possible) with the first arm 31^{1b}, and they comprise a driven pulley 322^{1b} firmly connected (again, no relative rotation possible) with the third arm 33^{1b}. A toothed belt 362^{1b} connects said drive and driven pulleys. The diameters of the drive pulley and the driven pulley are different, their respective values being calculated so that the conveying end 33T^{1b}, during movement thereof, reaches the zone of the core 1 close to the bead (see Figure 4) without the second arm 32^{1b} striking the sidewall 11 of the core 1.

Figure 4 shows the cyclet 6 in the position 6(a) imposed by the above-described apparatus, at one end of the to-and-fro movement of the functional oscillating arms 31^{1b}, 32^{1b}, 33^{1b}. The corresponding configuration adopted by the second and third arms of the apparatus is shown at 32^{1b}(a) and 33^{1b}(b) respectively. Various other positions and configurations are designated by the reference letters (b), (c), (d).

As a variant, the drive pulley 321^{1b} could also be mounted freely with respect to the first arm 31^{1b} and driven by a belt wound on the one hand around a pulley firmly connected with said drive pulley 321^{1b} and on the other hand wound round another pulley (not shown) concentric with the geometric axis 3D^{1b} and motorised independently both of the movement of the first arm and of the movement of the pulley 311^{1b}. This provides more latitude when it comes to controlling the relative movement of the third arm relative to the second.

Figure 5 illustrates an equivalent control means, mounted on the system of oscillating arms 3^{1a} of Figure 1. This Figure shows a third pulley 321^{1a} centred on the intermediate centre of rotation 321^{1a} of said second arm 32^{1a}, firmly connected (no relative rotation possible) with the intermediate arm 34^{1a}, and a fourth pulley 322^{1a} firmly connected (again, no relative rotation possible) with said third arm 33^{1a}. A toothed belt 362^{1a} connects said drive and driven pulleys. The diameters of the drive pulley and the driven pulley are different, their respective values being calculated so that the conveying end 33T^{1a}, during movement thereof, reaches the zone of the core 1 close to the bead (see Figure 4) without the second arm 32^{1a} striking the sidewall 11 of the core 1. The previous comment about another possibility for controlling the relative movement of the third arm relative to the second also applies to this variant.

Emphasis should also be laid on another detail which is readily visible in Figure 5. In this Figure, the system of arms 3^{1a} is substantially configured as in Figure 1. In this configuration, the second arm 32^{1a} is on one side of the first arm 31^{1a} and the intermediate arm 34^{1a} (and on one side of the median plane defined by the axis MM and the geometric axis of the shaft 3D^{1a}) and remains on this side during the part of the movement during which the eyelet 6 flies over the half of the core 1 situated on one side of said median plane. During the movement from one side of the core to the other side, the second arm 32^{1a} is caused to pass to the other side of the median plane and, in doing this, to the other side of the first arm 31^{1a} and the intermediate arm 34^{1a}. During the same movement, the intermediate arm 34^{1a} passes over the first arm 31^{1a}. It is thus important for the arms to be correctly superposed so that this movement is possible. This is the role of the distance sleeves 381^{1a} and 382^{1a}. It goes without saying that this comment is of general application. The oscillating arms articulated to each other, insofar as they perform a movement symmetrical in its course relative to a median plane, have to be superposed judiciously relative to one another to allow all the desired crossings of the arms.

With reference to Figures 6 and 7, another variant of the first embodiment will now be explained, said variant again relating to control of the movement of a third arm 33^{1c}. In this further variant of the first embodiment, the system of arms 3^{1c} again comprises three functional arms 31^{1c}, 32^{1c}, 33^{1c} arranged in series, and, in conjunction with presser devices, said control means also allows operation of the apparatus from one bead to the other.

The Figures show a base arm (or first arm) 311c and a second arm 321c, a description of the relative movement between the first and second arms being superfluous since it may be identical to that which has been described for the system of arms 31a or 3tb. The first arm 311c comprises a conveying head 31T1. A second arm 321, articulated by a centre of rotation 32R1 of the second arm, is mounted on the conveying head 31T1c of the first arm 311c. This second arm 321c comprises a conveying head 32T10. Finally, the apparatus comprises a third arm 3310, articulated via its centre of rotation 33R1c to the conveying head 32T1c of the second arm 321c. This third arm 331c comprises a conveying head 33T1e, on which the eyelet 6 is directly mounted. A cam 3811e is machined into the conveying head 31T1e of the first arm 311e. The cam comprises a neutral portion 381N1c machined with a constant average radius, a final control portion 381A1c with an increasing radius, for controlling the relative movement of the third arm 331c on one side of the core, and a final control portion 381B1c with decreasing radius, for controlling the relative movement of the third arm 331c on the other side of the core. A toothed wheel 3221c is mounted on the centre of rotation 33R 1c of the third arm 331c and is firmly connected (no relative rotation possible) with said third arm 33 1c. A connecting rod 383 1c slides in a guide 384 1c firmly connected with the second arm 321c. The connecting rod 3831c is thus guided in sliding manner with respect to the second arm 321°. The connecting rod 3831° carries on one side a cam follower 3821° cooperating with said cam 3811c. On the opposite side from the cam follower 3821c, the connecting rod 3831c comprises a rack 3851c which is engaged on said toothed wheel 3221c. The profile of the cam in the final control portions 381A1c and 381B1c is selected so that, during movement of the third arm 331c, the eyelet 6 mounted on the conveying end 33T10 of said third arm 3310 reaches the zone of the core 1 close to the bead (see position 6a in Figure 7) without the second arm 321b striking the sidewall 11 of the core 1.

Figure 7 shows the eyelet 6 in the position 6(a') imposed by the above-described cam apparatus, at one end of the to-and-fro movement of the functional oscillating arms 31^{1c} , 32^{1c} , 33^{1c} . The corresponding configuration adopted by the second and third arms of the apparatus is shown at 32^{1c} (a') and 33^{1c} (a') respectively. Various other positions and configurations are designated by the reference letters (b'), (c'), (d'). By comparing Figures 4 and 7, it will be noted that, if the positions marked (a) and (a') are identical, the positions marked (b'), (c') and (d') in Figure 7 differ somewhat from the positions (b), (c) and (d) in Figure 4. The considerably greater clearance at the level of the sidewall 11 will be noted, said clearance being maintained and permitted by the cam control

means

Thanks to the cam control, the relative movement between the second and third arms may be fairly freely conformed to requirements since it depends essentially on the profile of the cam. The constraints of proportionality with regard to the relative rotary movement between the first and second arms, specific to the belt control described with reference to Figures 3 and 5, are thus removed. It is possible to impose a relative position of the third arm with regard to the second arm, in particular in order to disengage the eyelet 6 rapidly with respect to the core 1. In this way, a constantly sufficient clearance is ensured between the conveying head 33T¹⁶ and the core 1 (see positions 6b, 6c and 6d) while moving sufficiently close to the surface of the core 1 in the bead zone (see position 6a). On the cam 381¹⁶, it may be noted that the part 381B¹⁶, and the part 381D¹⁶ deflected in the other direction, impose considerable changes in position over only a short distance, i.e. rapid changes in position (travel being in a curvilinear x-direction along the cam 381¹⁶), to tilt the third arm 33¹⁶ respectively to one side and the other of the second arm 32¹⁶, at the opposite ends of the movement of the eyelet 6, when it approaches each of the beads.

In a second embodiment, illustrated in Figures 8 and 9, the system of oscillating arms 3^{2a} comprises two functional oscillating arms 31^{2a} and 32^{2a} in series. It is designed for operation from a bead to a shoulder, for example for manufacture of a half-carcass. It is known, in effect, that the carcass of a radial tyre may be discontinuous from one bead to the other, being interrupted somewhere under the tread, the belt reinforcement ensuring the transmission of forces between the half-carcasses. The carcass reinforcement must be deposited between the bead and a shoulder. The oscillating arm system 3^{2a} adopts the parallelogram principle used in the oscillating arm system 3^{1a} , except that, of course, there is no third arm. A plate 30^{2a} supports a control motor 35^{2a} . The control motor 35^{2a} actuates shafts $3D^{2a}$ and $34D^{2a}$, the geometric axis of rotation of which is included in a median plane M^{2a} - M^{2a} . The control motor 35^{2a} also actuates the presser devices 2^G and 2^D , these being of the same type as those described in more detail in relation to Figure 2. The spacing of the presser devices 2^G and 2^D relative to the median plane M^{2a} - M^{2a} may be adjusted by wheels 23^{2a} and 24^{2a} .

A base arm (or first arm) 31^{2a} is mounted on the oscillating shaft $3D^{2a}$ via its centre of rotation $31R^{2a}$. Taking as the reference point the centre C of the radial section of the core 1, the centre of rotation $34R^{2a}$ is situated externally of the surface of the core 1. The first arm 31^{2a} comprises a conveying head $31T^{2a}$. A second arm 32^{2a} , articulated by a centre of rotation $32R^{2a}$ of the second arm, is mounted on the conveying head $31T^{2a}$ of the first arm 31^{2a} . This second arm 32^{2a} comprises a conveying head $32T^{2a}$. So as to control the relative position of the second arm 32^{2a} relative to the first arm 31^{2a} , in this example a parallelogram is formed by means of an auxiliary arm 34^{2a} , mounted oscillatingly about the oscillating shaft $34D^{2a}$ via the centre of rotation $34R^{2a}$ thereof.

Taking as the reference point the centre C of the radial section of the core 1, the centre of rotation $34R^{2a}$ is situated externally of the surface of the core 1, between the latter and the centre of rotation $31R^{2a}$ of the first arm 31^{2a} . The auxiliary arm 34^{2a} comprises a conveying head $34T^{2a}$, articulated to the second arm 32^{2a} which comprises to this end an intermediate centre of rotation $32I^{2a}$ situated between the centre of rotation $32R^{2a}$ and the conveying head $32T^{2a}$ of said second arm 32^{2a} . The conveying head $32T^{2a}$ of the second arm 32^{2a} directly supports the eyelet 6. The movement of the eyelet 6 is shown by the axis line 63^{2a} .

An apparatus according to this principle, with two functional oscillating arms, could just as well be used for operation from a bead as far as any point under the tread, including as far as the opposing shoulder, with a certain degree of overlap between the half-carcasses.

Figure 9 shows a variant comprising a system of oscillating arms 3^{2b}, differing from that described in relation to the system of Figure 8 essentially in the means of controlling the movement of the second arm 32^{2b} with regard to the base arm (or first arm) 31^{2b}. Instead of a control means comprising toothed pulleys and belts, this variant comprises a drive pinion 311^{2b} centred on the centre of rotation 31R^{2b} of said first arm.

The Figure shows a base arm (or first arm) 31^{2b} mounted on an oscillating shaft via its centre of rotation 31R^{2b}. The first arm 31^{2b} comprises a conveying head 31T^{2b} at the opposite end from the centre of rotation 31R^{2b}. A second arm 32^{2b}, articulated by a centre of rotation 32R^{2b} of the second arm, is mounted on the conveying head 31T^{2b} of the first arm 31^{2b}. This second arm 32^{2b} comprises a conveying head 32T^{2b}, on which the eyelet 6 is directly mounted. The drive pinion 311^{2b} is firmly connected with a flange 37^{2b} mounted fixedly on a plate (not shown in Figure 9). A driven pinion 312^{2b} is firmly connected (that is to say without the possibility of any relative rotation) to the second arm 32^{2b}. A chain 361^{2b} connects said first and second pinions. The diameters of the first and second pinions are identical so that, during movement thereof, the second arm 32^{2b} always remains parallel to itself. The arm system 3^{2b} may replace the arm system 3^{2a} of Figure 8. The above comment about the possibility of controlling a degree of freedom between the plate and the flange 37^{1b} and controlling the relative position of said flange 37^{1b} relative to the plate also applies to the flange 37^{2b}, as well as to all similar flanges.

It should be remembered that the eyelet 6, in all the variants, is actuated with a cyclical movement in a plane, designated above as "the plane of movement". Moreover, the pre-coated surface of the core 1 determines the overall geometry of the surface on which the reinforcing cord 4 is deposited. Furthermore, the core 1 is driven rotationally about its axis while the eyelet 6 performs its to-and-fro movements in the plane of movement of the eyelet. Of course, the movement of the core 1 is synchronised with the to-and-fro movement of the eyelet. The true trajectory of the arches 40 of

the cord 4 is thus both a function of the relative position between the eyelet movement plane and the core and a function of the relative movement between the core 1 and the to-and-fro movement of the eyelet 6.

In Figures 1, 4, 7 and 8, the trajectory of the arch 40 is substantially radial, because said Figures apply to the production of a carcass (or a half-carcass) for a radial tyre, without this being limiting, of course. Another example is given in a third embodiment, illustrated in Figure 12, where the trajectory of the arch 40^{3a} is not radial but rather forms an angle typical of belt reinforcements (of the order of 15° to 30°).

In this third embodiment shown in Figure 12, a system is disclosed which comprises a single functional oscillating arm (the base arm) 31^{3a}, adapted for example to the production of reinforcements in the belt of a tyre. It is adapted, for example, to shoulder to shoulder operation, to produce belt reinforcements. The base arm 31^{3a} is mounted on an oscillating shaft 3D^{3a} via its centre of rotation 31R^{3a}. The base arm 31^{3a} comprises a conveying head 31T^{3a}, to which an eyelet 6 is directly attached. The plane of movement in which the eyelet 6 describes its to-and-fro movement forms an angle of the order of 20° relative to a plane perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the core 1, according to the conventions usual for measuring angles in the tyre sector. The presser devices 2^G and 2^D act in the same plane of movement. Among the details visible in Figure 12 which are not specific to this embodiment, it should be noted that the cord 4 is passed through the hollow centre 51^{3a} of the oscillating shaft 3D^{3a} and that a large return capacity compensation system 52^{3a} is installed upstream.

To produce a carcass with cross-ply in the sidewalls, the eyelet plane of movement may be changed from a purely radial orientation by inclining the depositing member support (such as the plate 30) about an axis parallel to the axis of rotation of the core 1. It is of course possible to combine this adjustment with that applied in the above paragraph illustrating the production of belt reinforcements. It is also possible, without changing any features of the members of the apparatus as described, to drive the core at a fairly high speed, for example 1/8 of a revolution per to-and-fro movement of the arm system 3, in such a way that a cord laying angle is obtained which is a function of the relationship between the speed of the chain and the speed of the core (whereas in all the preceding examples the speed of the core 1 affected only the laying pitch).

The following comment explains an additional variant, which may be applied to all the embodiments described here, in all the variants thereof. It is possible to impart an alternating movement to the depositing member support (such as the plate 30^{1a} - see Figure 1) with the purpose of deflecting the trajectory of the cord 4 on the core 1. It is possible, for example, to actuate the depositing member support with an alternating translational movement (see double

arrow P in Figure 1), allowing translation of the eyelet plane of movement in a direction perpendicular to the plane of movement. It is also possible to actuate the depositing member support with an oscillatory movement about a geometric axis perpendicular to the surface of the form, included in the plane of movement and intersecting the geometric axis of rotation of the base arm (see double arrow Q about the axis M-M of Figure 1), allowing oscillation of the plane of movement about an axis parallel to said plane of movement. It is also possible to actuate the depositing member support with an oscillatory movement about any axis parallel with the previous one. It is important to distinguish such a design from simple fixed adjustment (also possible and useful in certain cases) of the angle which the plate 30^{1a} forms about the axis MM. All these particular embodiments provide an additional degree of freedom for acting on the exact shape of the trajectory of the cord 4.

An advantage of the invention is that the apparatus thus performing the previously known basic process is mechanically simple and light and that this apparatus involves at most only adjustments which are simple to perform for adaptation to all the tyre reinforcement variants to be produced, covering the widest possible range of tyres. The system of oscillating arms exhibits little protrusion, little inertia and lends itself well to elevated operating speeds.

It is possible to produce a carcass reinforcement in several (n) depositing passes, each pass covering the entire core. Since the radial arches within one pass are laid down at a pitch P, the position on the core 1 of the arches 40 laid down during n successive passes may thus exhibit a circumferential phase shift corresponding to P/n. The person skilled in the art may also foresee a plurality of ways of using the invention, depending on the tyre architecture which it is desired to obtain.

It should also be pointed out that, in the case of the production of half-carcasses (see Figures 8 and 9), it is possible to produce each of the half-carcasses simultaneously each side of the core, by providing two apparatus according to the invention, each opposite one side of the core. Or it is possible to produce each of the half-carcasses in succession.

An advantage of the present invention is that is allows passage round the form in numerous instances of use, including ones in which the trajectory of the arches forms an angle very different from 90° (for example of the order of 20°). Even in this instance, it is also possible to reach two points of the form in succession, each in the zone corresponding to a tyre bead, without the risk of striking the form.

4. Brief Description of Drawings

Figure 1 is a schematic perspective view showing a first embodiment of an apparatus according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a detail of a presser of this apparatus;

Figure 3 illustrates a first variant of the first embodiment;

Figure 4 shows in more detail a stage of operation of the apparatus according to the first embodiment;

Figure 5 illustrates a detail of the first embodiment which is not visible in Figure 1;

Figure 6 illustrates a second variant of the first embodiment;

Figure 7 shows the successive stages of operation of the second variant of the first embodiment;

Figure 8 is a radial section showing a second embodiment of an apparatus according to the invention;

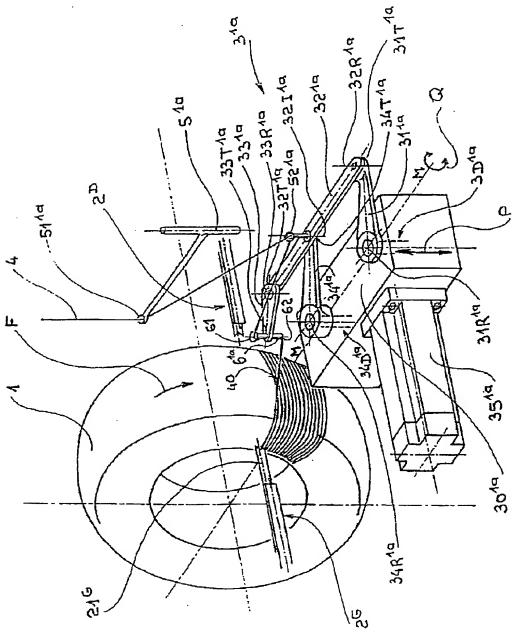
Figure 9 illustrates a variant of the second embodiment;

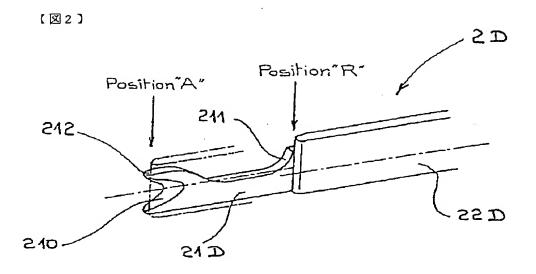
Figure 10 is an elevational view (section in the plane defined in Figure 1 by the axis MM and the geometric axis of the shaft 3D, also called the "median plane") of the control mechanism used in the first embodiment illustrated in Figure 1;

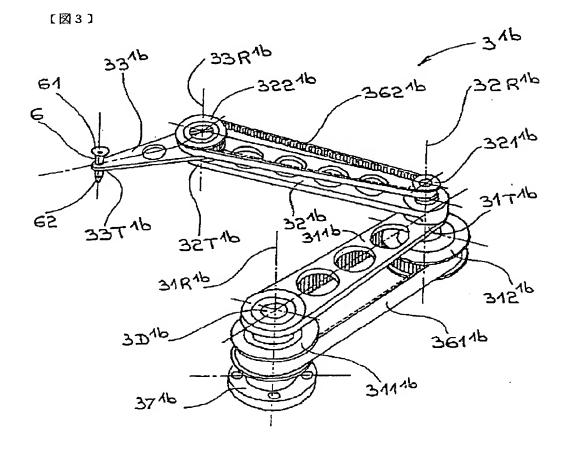
Figure 11 is a section along AA in Figure 10;

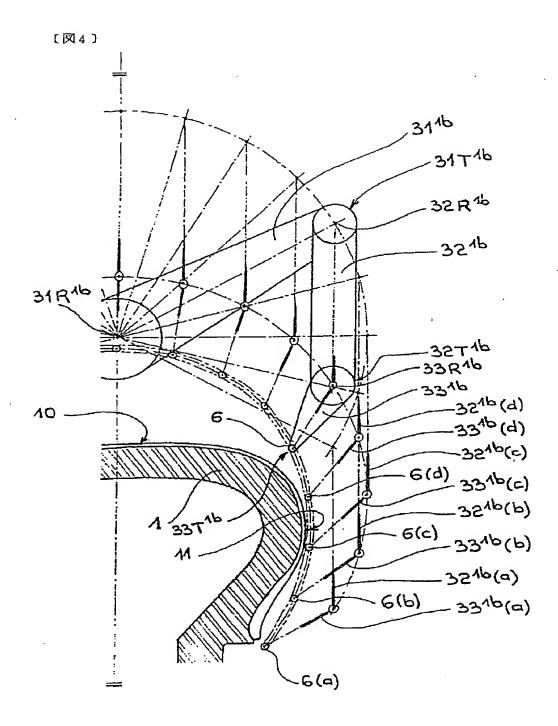
Figure 12 is a schematic perspective view showing a third embodiment of an apparatus according to the invention;

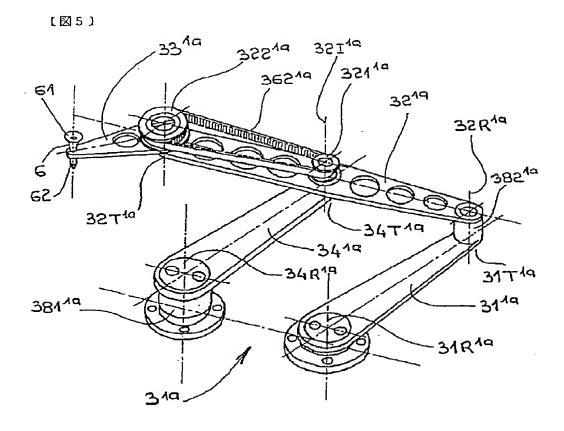




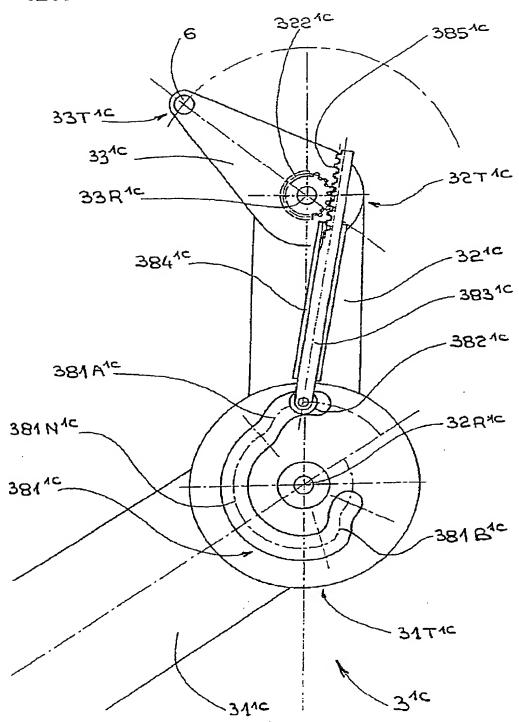


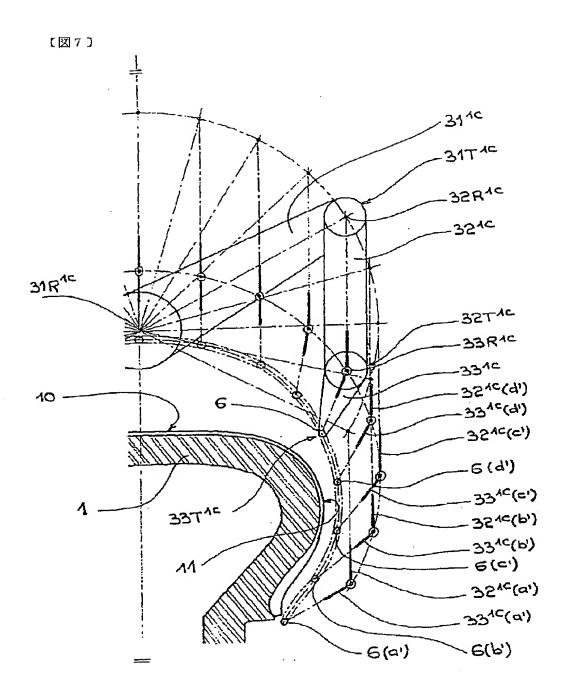


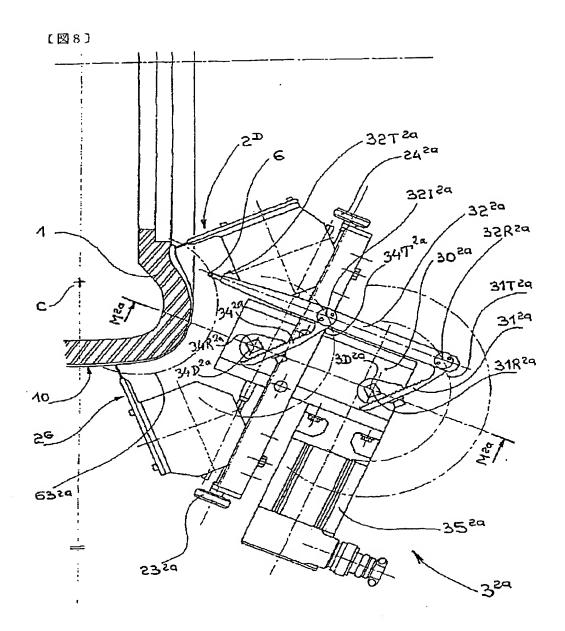




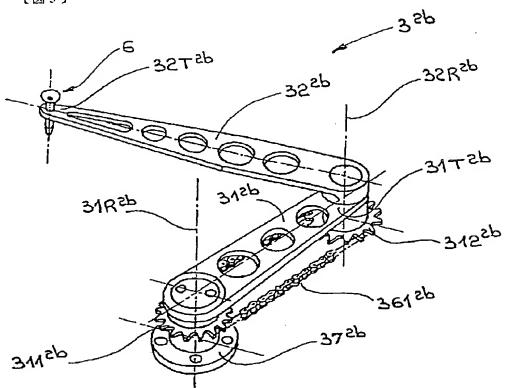
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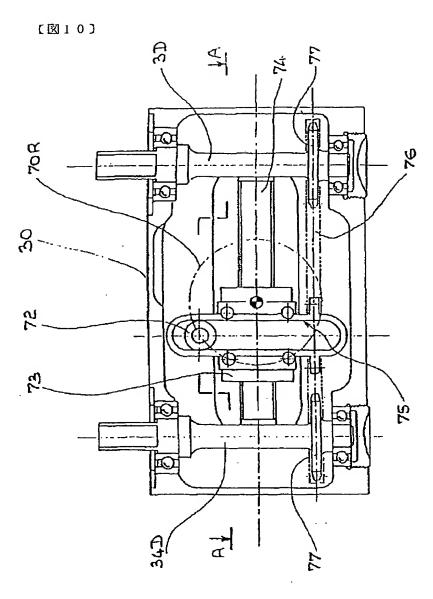


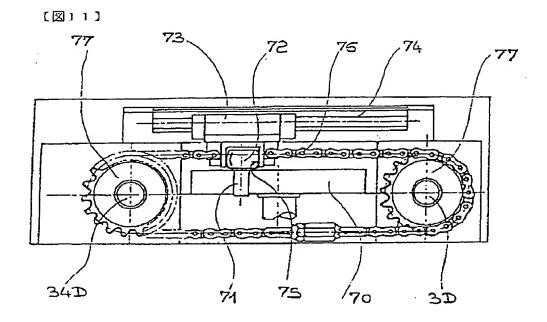


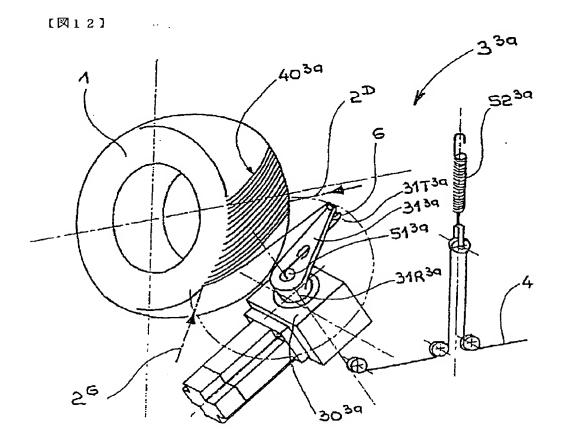












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1. Abstract

The cord 4, intended to constitute a carcass reinforcement, is deposited in contiguous arches on a rigid core 1 by a system of arms arranged in series conveying an eyelet 6 in such a way as to allow it to fly over a core 1 and thus deposit adjacent arches.

2. Representative Drawings

Figure 1

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